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zur

Geschichte der Gegenwart.

Begründet

von

Aegidi und **Klauhold.**

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von

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„ „ 10. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bedeutung der Ruhestörungen und Unregelmässigkeiten bei den Wahlen, Rücktritt des Justizministers . . . 9215.
„ „ 12. — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Bulgarische Truppen haben den Kirdjali-District besetzt . . . . . 9216.
„ „ 12. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Rückkehr

Gadban-Effendis nach Sophia; Bulgarien weist Abtretungen an die Pforte im Kirdjali-District ohne entsprechende Entschädigung zurück . . . . . 9217.

1886. Juni 14. England. Derselbe an denselben. Bericht über Aeusserungen des Fürsten Alexander betreffs der Lage in Bulgarien 9218.

„ „ 14. — Derselbe an denselben. Bericht über die Sobranje-Eröffnung und die Pläne der Opposition, eine vollständige Vereinigung mit Ostrumelien zu fordern . 9219.

„ „ 14. Bulgarien. Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander bei Eröffnung der Sobranje . . . . . 9220.

„ „ 15. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Auslassungen des Fürsten Alexander und Gadban-Effendis über den Streit mit der Türkei betreffs der Gebietsabtretung im Kirdjali-District . . . . . 9221.

„ „ 15. — Derselbe an denselben. Fürst Alexander protestirt gegen eine von Russland gestattete Besetzung von Burgas durch die Pforte, glaubt, die Russen suchen eine Revolution herbeizuführen, und erklärt seine Stellung zur Verhaftung Nabokoffs . . . . . 9222.

„ „ 15. — Derselbe an denselben, Fürst Alexander theilt Umtriebe des russischen Generalconsuls, um eine Revolution in Macedonien herbeizuführen, mit . . . . 9223.

„ „ 16. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Giers ist von der Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander sehr unangenehm berührt und bereitet ein Circular deshalb vor . . . . . 9224.

„ „ 18. — Consul in Adrianopel an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Militärische Vorbereitungen der Pforte in Macedonien . . . . . 9225.

„ „ 19. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Italienische Vorstellungen in Sophia über die Thronrede des Fürsten und dessen Erwiederung darauf . . . 9226.

„ „ 22. — Derselbe an denselben. Bericht über Radoslawoffs Wiedereintritt in das Ministerium . . . . . 9227.

„ „ 23. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Besorgnisse Graf Kálnokys wegen der Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander . . . . . 9228.

„ „ 23. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Russische Beschwerden bei der Pforte über die bulgarische Regierung . . . . . 9229.

„ „ 24. Bulgarien. Adresse der Sobranje an den Fürsten zur Beantwortung der Thronrede . . . . . 9230.

„ „ 25. — Entwurf der Antwortsnote auf die von der Türkei gemachten Vorstellungen . . . . . 9231.

„ „ 26. England. Generalconsul in Salonichi an den Min. des Ausw. Uebersendet einen Artikel der Philippopler Zeitung „Nezavisimost“ nach der in der Revue de l'Orient vom 6. Juni enthaltenen französischen Uebersetzung . . . . . 9232.

„ „ 30. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Uebersendet einen Artikel des „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg“, welcher die Pforte des Einverständnisses mit der russenfeindlichen Politik des Fürsten Alexander bezichtigt, und berichtet über die Bemerkungen des Herrn v. Giers zu demselben . . . . . 9233.

„ Juli 2. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Die Pforte hat eine energische Beschwerdenote nach Sophia wegen der Adresse der Sobranje an den Fürsten gesandt und den Nachdruck des Artikels im „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg“ vom 29. Juni verboten; Gerüchte über russische Rüstungen . . . . . 9234.

„ „ 10. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über russiche Umtriebe in Ostrumelien zur Herbei-

führung einer Revolution und über die erfolgreiche innere Politik des Fürsten und seiner Regierung . . 9235.

1886. Juli 15. England. Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Uebersendet einen Artikel der Nowoje Wremja . . . . . 9236.

„ „ 19. Serbien. Thronrede des Königs Milan bei Eröffnung der Skuptschina am 19. Juli . . . . . 9237.

„ „ 22. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Russland hat der bulgarischen Regierung erklärt, dass Schritte zur Herstellung guter Beziehungen von Seiten Russlands nicht geschehen könnten, solange das gegenwärtige Regiment bestehen bleibe . . . . . 9238.

„ „ 23. Bulgarien. Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander beim Schlusse der Sobranje . . . . . 9239.

„ „ 24. England. Vertreter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Die deutsche Regierung ist über den Verlauf der Dinge in Bulgarien wieder mehr beruhigt . . . . . 9240.

„ „ 24. Serbien. Adresse der Skuptschina an den König zur Beantwortung der Thronrede . . . . . 9241.

„ „ 24. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Bewilligungen der Sobranje zu militärischen Ausgaben und über beruhigende Erklärungen des Fürsten Alexander darüber . . . . . 9242.

„ „ 27. — Generalconsul in Salonichi an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über Umtriebe bulgarischer Panslavisten in Macedonien . . . . . 9243.

„ „ 28. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Die militärischen Bewegungen in Serbien sind nur zum Schutze gegen befürchtete Aufstandsversuche geschehen, aber ohne Mobilisirung . . . . . 9244.

„ Aug. 1. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Graf Kálnoky, beunruhigt durch die militärischen Vorbereitungen der Pforte im Hinblick auf die bulgarischen Rüstungen, hat in Sophia Vorstellungen gemacht und auf die Grundlosigkeit der Besorgniss vor Serbien hingewiesen . . . . . 9245.

„ „ 2. — Derselbe an denselben. Graf Kálnoky ist von der Friedensliebe Serbiens überzeugt, aber durch die Haltung des Fürsten Alexander beunruhigt . . . . . 9246.

„ „ 4. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Die militärischen Maassregeln Bulgariens tragen keinen beunruhigenden Charakter . . . . . 9247.

„ „ 4. — Derselbe an denselben. Meldet die Ankunft der türkischen Delegirten zur Revision des organischen Statuts in Sophia . . . . . 9248.

„ „ 11. — Derselbe an denselben. Stimmung der bulgarischen Regierung bei Beginn der Berathungen des Statuts . 9249.

„ „ 11. — Derselbe an denselben. Nachrichten über serbische Rüstungen haben in Bulgarien Beunruhigung hervorgerufen . . . . . 9250.

„ „ 12. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Die Befürchtungen wegen serbischer Rüstungen sind ganz unbegründet . . . . . 9251.

„ „ 12. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Fürst Alexander macht England auf die serbischen Rüstungen aufmerksam und erklärt die Nothwendigkeit von Vorsichtsmaassregeln . . . . . 9252.

„ „ 13. — Derselbe an denselben. Fürst Alexander lehnt die Initiative zur Herstellung der diplomatischen Beziehungen zu Serbien ab . . . . . 9253.

„ „ 13. Türkei. Gesandter in Belgrad an den serbischen Min. des Ausw. Begehrt genaue Klarstellung der aus Sophia eingelaufenen Nachrichten von serbischen Rüstungen 9254.

1886. Aug. 14. England. Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Kálnoky erklärt die Nachrichten von serbischen Rüstungen für falsch, spricht über das Scheitern seiner Vermittlung zur Herstellung diplomatischer Beziehungen zwischen Serbien und Bulgarien und antwortet Russland beruhigend auf die Nachrichten betreffs der bulgarischen Rüstungen . . . . . 9255.
„ „ 14. — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Berichtet über die Differenzen der bulgarischen Behörden mit dem russischen Viceconsul über den Prozess des Kapitäns Nabokoff . . . . . 9256.
„ „ 16. Serbien. Min. des Ausw. an den türkischen Gesandten in Belgrad. Erklärt auf das bestimmteste alle von der bulgarischen Regierung in Umlauf gesetzten Nachrichten über serbische Rüstungen für falsch und behauptet, dass dieselben nur erfunden seien, um die Aufmerksamkeit der Pforte von den Vorbereitungen Bulgariens abzulenken . . . . . 9257.
„ „ 20. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die geheimen Verhandlungen in den Sitzungen der türkisch-bulgarischen Commission zur Revision des ostrumelischen Statuts . . . . . 9258.
„ „ 21. Italien. Viceconsul in Rustschuk an den Min. des Ausw. Meldet die Absetzung des Fürsten Alexander und die Einsetzung einer provisorischen Regierung in Sophia 9259.
„ „ 21. Bulgarien. Proclamation der ersten provisorischen Regierung in Sophia an das Volk . . . . . 9260.
„ „ 21. — Proclamation des Präsidenten der Sobranje an das Volk . . . . . 9261.
„ „ 21. Italien. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die Berathungen der Vertreter der auswärtigen Mächte nach Bekanntwerden des Staatsstreiches, die an Major Grueff gerichteten Erklärungen und dessen Antwort darauf . . . . . 9262.
„ „ 22. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. der ersten provisorischen Regierung in Sophia an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Sophia. Anzeige der Abdankung des Fürsten und der Bildung der Regierung . . . . . 9263.
„ „ 22. England. Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. Nachricht von dem Staatsstreiche in Sophia . . . 9264.
„ „ 22. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Die Pforte wird hinsichtlich der bulgarischen Ereignisse nur im Einvernehmen mit den Grossmächten handeln und keine Truppen nach Bulgarien oder Ostrumelien senden . . . . . 9265.
„ „ 22. — Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. Theilt weitere Nachrichten der rumänischen Regierung über den Aufstand in Sophia mit . . . . . 9266.
„ „ 23. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Kálnoky erklärt, bei der aus den eingegangenen Nachrichten erkennbaren Theilnahmlosigkeit der Bulgaren betreffs des Schicksals des Fürsten vorläufig nichts für denselben thun zu können . . . . . 9267.
„ „ 23. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Anfrage, ob er Aufklärungen über den Staatsstreich in Sophia geben könne . . . . . 9268.
„ „ 23. Türkei. Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. Die Pforte hat in Sophia erklärt, dass sie alle Urheber des Umsturzes für das Geschehene verantwortlich halte, und wird weiter nur im Einvernehmen mit den Grossmächten handeln . . . . . 9269.
„ „ 23. England. Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Sendet vom englischen Vertreter in Sophia eingegangene Nachrichten über die Lage in Sophia . 9270.

1868. Aug 23. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Hat die Verschwörer für das Leben des Fürsten verantwortlich gemacht; die Vertreter der andern Mächte wollen dagegen erst Instructionen erwarten . . . . . 9271.

„ „ 23. — Derselbe an denselben. Theilt die von Russland auf die Anzeige der revolutionären Regierung von der Absetzung des Fürsten ertheilte Antwort mit . . . . 9272.

„ „ 24. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. der zweiten provisor. Regierung an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Sophia. Anzeige der Bildung der Regierung und Gesuch um Anerkennung . . . . . 9273.

„ „ 24. — Proclamation der zweiten provisorischen Regierung in Sophia an das Volk . . . . . 9274.

„ „ 24. England. Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. Die Nachrichten aus Bulgarien sind verwirrt und widerspruchsvoll . . . . . 9275.

„ „ 24. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. An den russischen Kaiser sind 2 Telegramme der Revolutionäre aus Sophia mit der Bitte um Inschutznahme gelangt; Antwort ist noch nicht ertheilt . . 9276.

„ „ 24. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Meldet die Erhebung der Truppen in Bulgarien und Ostrumelien für den Fürsten . . . . . 9277.

„ „ 24. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Deutschland kann bei der Unsicherheit der Nachrichten noch keine Stellung zu den Vorgängen in Sophia nehmen; Russland will nicht interveniren. Zuverlässige Nachrichten über den wahren Stand der Dinge fehlen . . 9278.

„ „ 24. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Lord Iddesleigh lehnt es ab, einen von der Pforte von England besonders erbetenen Avis über die von ihr zu befolgende Politik zu geben . . . . . 9279.

„ „ 24. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über den Sturz der provisorischen revolutionären Regierung und über die Wiederaufnahme der Regierung durch Karaweloff . . . . . 9280.

„ „ 24. Bulgarien. Proclamation der provisorischen Regierung in Tirnowa an das Volk . . . . . 9281.

„ „ 25. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Die Pforte möge den Fürsten Alexander zur Rückkehr in sein Land auffordern . . . . . 9282.

„ „ 14./26. Bulgarien. Vertreter in Bukarest an die Vertreter der Grossmächte daselbst. Uebersendet denselben das Exposé der Chefs der bulgarischen Regentschaft Stambuloff über die jüngsten Ereignisse . . . . . 9283.

„ „ 26. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. England wünscht, dass auch Italien die Pforte auffordere, den Fürsten Alexander zur Rückkehr einzuladen . . . . . 9284.

„ „ 26. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. Graf Kálnoky tritt dem Gerüchte entgegen, dass die Vorgänge in Bulgarien Folgen der Gasteiner Zusammenkunft seien . . . . . 9285.

„ „ 26. England. Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Franassowitsch weiss, dass die Besorgnisse des Fürsten Alexander vor Serbien auf Täuschung durch die Verschworenen beruhten . . . . . 9286.

„ „ 26. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die Vorgänge nach dem Sturze des Fürsten, seine und des russischen Agenten Thätigkeit bei Neubildung der Regierung . . . . . 9287.

„ „ 27. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Weder die Pforte noch Russland werden Truppen nach

Bulgarien senden; die Pforte betrachtet die Rückkehr des Fürsten als nicht wünschenswerth . . . . . 9288.

1886. Aug. 27. England. Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Die russische Regierung giebt vor, über den Aufenthalt des Fürsten nichts zu wissen; die neue bulgarische wird ihn nicht zurückrufen . . . . . 9289.

„ „ 28. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. Graf Robilant will mit einer Meinungsäusserung zurückhalten, bis das Ergebniss der Zusammenkunft Giers' und Bismarck's sich zeigen wird; Iddesleigh wünscht für Bulgarien die Unterstützung durch die Mächte . . . . 9290.

„ „ 28. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die Sendung des Fürsten Dolgoruki . 9291.

„ „ 28. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Meldet die Bildung einer neuen provisorischen Regierung durch Stambuloff . . . . . 9292.

„ „ 28. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Bismarck erklärt, dass Deutschland im Orient nur ein Interesse an der Erhaltung des Friedens habe; Karaweloff hat sich gegen die Rückkehr des Fürsten ausgesprochen . . . . . 9293.

„ „ 28. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Instruction . . . . . 9294.

„ „ 29. Bulgarien. Proclamation des Fürsten Alexander bei seiner Rückkehr . . . . . 9295.

„ „ 30. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Instruction . . . . . 9296.

„ „ 30. England. Min des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Earl Iddesleigh hat die Pforte auf den Vortheil freundlicher Politik gegen Bulgarien hingewiesen und billigt die Rückkehr des Fürsten Alexander . . 9297.

„ „ 30. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. Bismarck ist mit der Frage, welche Strafen gegen die Verschwörer werden verhängt werden, beschäftigt und wird nicht die Initiative in der bulgarischen Frage ergreifen . . . . . 9298.

„ „ 30. Bulgarien. Fürst Alexander an den Zaren. Erklärt sich bereit, seine Krone in die Hände des Zaren zurückzulegen . . . . . 9299.

„ „ 31. Russland. Zar Alexander an den Fürsten Alexander von Bulgarien. Missbilligt dessen Rückkehr und erklärt, sich jeder Einmischung in die bulgarischen Dinge enthalten zu wollen, solange der Fürst da bleibe . . . 9300.

„ „ 31. England. Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. König Milan hat den Fürsten zu seiner Rückkehr beglückwünscht, dieser mit dem Wunsche nach Herstellung der diplomatischen Beziehungen geantwortet 9301.

„ Sept. 1. — Derselbe an denselben. König Milan geht auf den Vorschlag des Fürsten Alexander bereitwillig ein . 9302.

„ „ 1. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über Vorgänge in Sophia . . . . . 9303.

„ „ 2. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Berlin und Wien. Schlägt die freie und offene Unterstützung des Fürsten Alexander durch die Grossmächte vor . . . . . 9304.

„ „ 2. — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. Fürst Alexander ist sehr entmuthigt; ein Attentat ist gegen ihn versucht worden . . . . . 9305.

„ „ 2. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Freycinet hat bisher eine ausschliesslich abwartende Haltung beobachtet . . . . . 9306.

„ „ 3. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Bismarck lehnt die Unterstützung des Fürsten Alexander ab . . . . . 9307.

1886. Sept. 3. England. Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Kálnoky lehnt die Unterstützung des Fürsten Alexander ab . 9308.

„ „ 3. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Fürst Alexanders Gründe für seine Abreise aus dem Lande; vergeblicher Versuch des Vertreters, seinen Entschluss zu ändern . . . . . 9309.

„ „ 4. — Derselbe an denselben. Berichtet über den Einzug des Fürsten Alexander in Sophia und seine Absicht, das Land zu verlassen . . . . . 9310.

„ „ 5. — Derselbe an denselben. Die maassgebenden Kreise in Sophia fordern Garantien von Russland für die Gestattung der Abreise des Fürsten; die Armee will sich derselben widersetzen . . . . . 9311.

„ „ 5. — Derselbe an denselben. Hat den bulgarischen Regenten die Sympathie und moralische Unterstützung Englands zugesichert . . . . . 9312.

„ „ 6. — Derselbe an denselben. Fürst Alexander schlägt die Einsetzung einer europäischen Commission zur Ueberwachung der Regierung in Bulgarien vor: die Desorganisation des Heeres mache sein Bleiben unmöglich 9313.

„ „ 6. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Dringt erneut auf Verbleiben des Fürsten im Lande . . . 9314.

„ „ 6. — Vertreter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Die Pforte erklärt sich dem bulgarischen Ansinnen, bis zur Neuwahl eines Fürsten jeder auswärtigen Besetzung des Landes entgegenzutreten, geneigt . . . 9315.

„ „ 6. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Die Officiere haben ihren Widerstand gegen die Abreise des Fürsten aufgegeben . . . . . 9316.

„ „ 7. Bulgarien. Abschiedsrede des Fürsten Alexander an das diplomatische Corps . . . . . 9317.

„ „ 7. — Fürst Alexander an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Sophia. Zeigt seine Abreise an und übersendet die Proclamation an das bulgarische Volk . . . . . 9318.

„ „ 7. England. Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Bismarck erklärt jetzt den Zeitpunkt für gekommen, wo die Grossmächte sich der bulgarischen Angelegenlegenheit annehmen könnten . . . . . 9319.

„ „ 7. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über seine Vorstellungen bei Giers betreffs Erhaltung des Fürsten Alexander auf dem Throne und deren unbedingte Ablehnung . . . . . 9320.

„ „ 7. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Abreise des Fürsten Alexander aus Sophia 9322.

„ „ 8. Türkei. Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. Ersucht die Mächte um Zustimmung zu der von Bulgarien geforderten Erklärung, dass nach der Abreise des Fürsten keine fremde Intervention stattfinden werde . . . . . 9323.

„ „ 9. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Instruction . . . . . 9321.

„ „ 9. England. Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Antwort Oesterreichs auf die türkische Note . . . 9324.

„ „ 9. — Vertreter in Berlin an den Min des Ausw. Antwort Deutschlands auf das türkische Rundschreiben . . 9325.

„ „ 9. — Derselbe an denselben Russlands Zusicherung der Nichtintervention in Bulgarien erscheint der deutschen Regierung unbedingt . . . . . 9326.

„ „ 11. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Karaweloffs Stellung ist bedroht . . . . . 9327.

„ „ 11. Deutschland. Artikel der Norddeutschen Allgemeinen Zeitung vom 11. September. Dementi der in der Presse verbreiteten Gerüchte über eine von Russland, Deutsch-

land und Oesterreich an den Fürsten Alexander gerichtete Note . . . . . 9328.
1886. Sept. 11. England. Viceconsul in Warna an den Vertreter in Sophia. Bericht über die Stimmung der Bevölkerung nach der Abreise des Fürsten . . . . . 9331.
„ „ 12. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Zankoff wünscht eine Verfassungsänderung in Bulgarien und an Stelle der Neuwahl eines Fürsten einen von Europa bestellten Regenten und ein organisches Statut . . 9329.
„ „ 13. Bulgarien. Botschaft der Regenten bei Eröffnung der Sobranje am 13. September . . . . . 9330.
„ „ 13. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Sobranje-Eröffnung und die Antwort Russlands auf die bulgarischen Anfragen . . . . . 9332.
„ „ 13. — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Zeigt den Empfang der bulgarischen Note über die Neubildung der Regierung an . . . . . 9333.
„ „ 14. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Natschewitsch hat die Wiederherstellung diplomatischer Beziehungen zu Serbien angeregt . . . . . 9334.
„ „ 14. — Derselbe an denselben. Bericht über die Lage in Bulgarien . . . . . 9335.
„ „ 14. — Derselbe an denselben. Widerstand in der Sobranje gegen die Adresse an den Zaren; Russland bestreitet die Rechtmässigkeit der Regentschaft; Oesterreich will die Bulgaren in der Wahrung ihrer Unabhängigkeit unterstützen . . . . . 9336.
„ „ 15. — Derselbe an denselben. Die Sobranje beschliesst, die Adresse an den Zaren nicht fallen zu lassen . . . 9337.
„ „ 15. Bulgarien. Telegramm der Sobranje an den Zaren. Bitte um seine Protektion zur Vereinigung und Unabhängigkeit der bulgarischen Länder . . . . . 9338.
„ „ 15. England. Geschäftsträger in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Russland hat bei Freycinet ein gemeinsames Vorgehen der Mächte in der bulgarischen Angelegenheit zur Aufrechthaltung des Friedens angeregt, Freycinet nur in allgemeinen Ausdrücken geantwortet . . . . 9339.
„ „ 16. Bulgarien. Antwortadresse der Sobranje auf die Botschaft der Regenten bei Eröffnung der Session . . . . . 9340.
„ „ 16. England. Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Russland giebt die Entsendung eines Specialbevollmächtigten nach Bulgarien auf; General Kaulbars wird die russische Vertretung in Sophia in derselben Weise führen, wie die Vertreter der übrigen Mächte . . . . . 9341.
„ „ 17. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Aeusserungen Kaulbars' über seine Aufgabe in Bulgarien . 9342.
„ „ 18. Bulgarien. Dankestelegramm von 200 Sobranjemitgliedern an den Fürsten Alexander . . . . . 9343.
„ „ 18. Russland. Artikel des „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg" vom 6/18. September, an Earl Iddesleigh an diesem Tage von Sir Morier übersandt . . . . . 9344.
„ „ 19. England. Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Russlands Antwort auf das türkische Circular 9345.
„ „ 19. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bulgarien hat Serbien um die Annahme Dr. Stranskys als ständigen Vertreters in Belgrad ersucht . . . . . 9346.
„ „ 19. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Constantinopel. Robilant hat dem türkischen Botschafter die Zweckmässigkeit eines Aufschubs der bulgarischen Fürstenwahl dargelegt . . . . . 9347.
„ „ 19. Russland. Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Begehrt Aufschub des Prozesses gegen die Verschwörer . . . . . 9348.

1886. Sept. 20. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter Russlands in Sophia. Ist von der russischen Note und deren mündlicher Unterstützung durch die Vertreter Deutschlands und Oesterreichs befremdet; die Untersuchung gegen die Verschwörer steht erst in ihren Anfängen 9349.
„ „ 20. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Russland erklärt, der Zar habe nicht die Unabhängigkeit Bulgariens dem Fürsten Alexander gegenüber gewährleistet, sondern nur seine Mitwirkung zur Aufrechterhaltung der Ordnung zugesagt; Russland habe die Regentschaft nicht anerkannt . . . . . 9350.
„ „ 20. Deutschland. Vertreter in Sophia an den Reichskanzler. Seine Bemühungen um Aufschub der Hinrichtungen haben Erfolg gehabt . . . . . 9351.
„ „ 21. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Nekljudoff hat die Annahme der bulgarischen Note abgelehnt; Natschewitsch wird Abänderungen in derselben vornehmen . . . . . 9352.
„ „ 22. — Vertreter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Deutsche Erklärung zu dem bei der bulgarischen Regierung gethanen Schritte betreffs der event. Hinrichtung der Verschwörer . . . . . 9353.
„ „ 24. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Geneigtheit und Bedingungen Serbiens für Herstellung der freundschaftlichen Beziehungen zu Bulgarien . . . 9354.
„ „ 25. Deutschland. Staatssekretär im Ausw. Amt Graf Bismarck an den Vertreter in Sophia. Der Reichskanzler ist von den Erfolgen desselben befriedigt und fordert eine Bestätigung, dass er, der Vertreter, sich nur im Rahmen seiner Instruction gehalten hat . . . . . 9355.
„ „ 25. England. Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Beschlüsse des Gerichts in Burgas betreffs der Freilassung der angeklagten Verschwörer und deren Ablehnung durch den Kommandanten . . 9356.
„ „ 26. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Mündlich gestellte Forderungen Kaulbars' in Sophia; ablehnende Haltung der bulgarischen Regierung; Kaulbars betrachtet diese nur als Parteivertretung . . . 9357.
„ „ 27. Russland. Ausserordentlicher Bevollmächtigter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Russland erklärt eine Einberufung der Sobranje für ungesetzlich . . 9358.
„ „ 28. Italien. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Gründe der bulgarischen Regierung für die Ablehnung der Kaulbars'schen Forderungen . . . . . 9359.
„ „ 29. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in St.-Petersburg. Meinungsaustausch mit dem russischen Botschafter in London über die Lage in Bulgarien und das Verhalten General Kaulbars' . . . . . 9360.
„ „ 29. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über weitere durch das Verhalten des Generals Kaulbars hervorgerufene Misshelligkeiten mit der bulgarischen Regierung . . . . . 9361.
„ „ 30. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter bei den Grossmächten, bei der Pforte und in Bukarest und in Sophia. Lädt die Grossmächte ein, die bulgarische Regierung durch ihre Rathschläge in der gegenwärtigen Krisis zu unterstützen. . . . . 9362.
„ „ 30. — Botsch. in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Meinungsaustausch zwischen dem englischen Botsch. und Herrn von Giers über die Lage in Bulgarien . . . 9363.
„ Oct. 1. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Serbien hat einen diplomatischen Vertreter nach Sophia vorläufig in vertraulicher Mission entsendet . . . . . 9364.
„ „ 1. — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botsch. in Constantinopel.

Meldet die Freilassung der verhafteten Verschwörer gegen Kaution . . . . . 9365.

1886. Oct. 2. England. Botsch. in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Kálnoky stimmt den englischen Auseinandersetzungen im Principe zu, lehnt aber Rathschläge an Bulgarien betreffs bestimmter Punkte ab und bezieht sich betreffs der österreichischen Politik auf Tiszas Parlamentsrede 9366.

„ „ 2. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an den russischen ausserordentl. Bevollmächtigten in Sophia. Die bulgarische Regierung wird alle Rathschläge des Generals befolgen, soweit sie nicht gegen die bestehenden Gesetze sind 9367.

„ „ 2. Russland. Ausserordentl. Bevollmächtigter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Verlangt direkte Antwort auf seine Forderungen . . . . . 9368.

„ „ 3. Deutschland. Vertreter in Sophia an den Reichskanzler. Bestätigt, dass er sich darauf beschränkt habe, der bulgarischen Regierung lediglich den Aufschub der Hinrichtungen anzurathen . . . . . 9369.

„ „ 3. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an den russischen ausserordentl. Bevollmächtigten in Sophia. Die bulgarische Regierung vermag nur ihre in der letzten Note gegebenen Versicherungen zu wiederholen . . . . . 9370.

„ „ 3. England. Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. Vereitelung der Verbreitung der zwölf neuen Punkte Kaulbars' unter der Bevölkerung; neue Aufwiegelungen russischer Agenten . . . . . 9371.

„ „ 3. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Die bulgarische Regierung beharrt auf Einberufung der Sobranje 9372.

„ „ 3. — Derselbe an denselben. Bericht über das Auftreten und den Misserfolg General Kaulbars' in einer Volksversammlung in Sophia . . . . . 9373.

„ „ 3. — Derselbe an denselben. Berichtet über Gespräche mit General Kaulbars über dessen Sendung und die Lage in Bulgarien . . . . . 9374.

„ „ 3. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in London. Antwortet auf das englische Circular, hält die sofortige Neuwahl eines bulgarischen Fürsten für unmöglich . 9376.

„ „ 4. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die neuerdings von General Kaulbars aufgestellten 12 Punkte und über dessen unstatthaftes Verhalten . . . . . 9375.

„ „ 4. Russland. Ausserordentlicher Bevollmächtigter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Erneuert dringend die Forderung auf Freilassung aller verhafteten Officiere und auf Verschiebung der Wahlen . . . 9377.

„ „ 4. England. Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über eine Unterredung mit Giers über den englischen Vorschlag einer gemeinsamen Behandlung der bulgarischen Angelegenheiten durch die Grossmächte und über die von Kaulbars geforderte Freilassung der verhafteten bulgarischen Verschwörer . 9378.

„ „ 5. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in St.-Petersburg. Berichtet über die Antwort Russlands auf das englische Rundschreiben und ein Gespräch mit dem russischen Botschafter über dieselbe . . . . . 9379.

„ „ 5. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die Verdachtsgründe gegen Karaweloff betreffs seiner Theilnahme an der Verschwörung, die Nothwendigkeit seines Rücktritts und daher der schleunigen Einberufung der Sobranje . . . . . 9380.

„ „ 5. — Derselbe an denselben. General Kaulbars hat von dem Kommandanten von Rustschuk direkt die Freilassung der verhafteten Officiere gefordert . . . . . 9381.

„ „ 6. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg.

Macht auf eine offenbare Ueberschreitung seiner Instructionen durch General Kaulbars aufmerksam . . 9382.
1886. Oct. 8. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in London. Darlegung seines Standpunktes zur bulgarischen Frage 9383.
„ „ 8. England. Botsch. in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Kálnokys Vorstellungen bei Russland über das Vorgehen des Generals Kaulbars . . . . . 9384.
„ „ 8. — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über eine von den russischen Consuln in Bulgarien unterstützte Verschwörung gegen die bulgarische Regierung . . . . . 9385.
„ „ 9. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Nur etwa zwanzig noch verhafteten Officieren wird der Process gemacht werden . . . . . 9386.
„ „ 9. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Mächte in Sophia. Warnt die Ausländer vor Einmischung in die Wahlen . . . . . 9387.
„ „ 9. Russland. Vertreter in Sophia an die Vertreter der Grossmächte daselbst. Zeigt die Zurückweisung der bulgarischen Note an . . . . . 9388.
„ „ 9. — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Sendet die bulgarische Note zurück und bricht bis zur Rückkehr des Generals Kaulbars allen Schriftwechsel mit der bulgarischen Regierung ab . . . . 9389.
„ „ 9. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die Misserfolge Kaulbars' auf seiner Rundreise durch Bulgarien . . . . . 9390.
„ „ 10. — Botsch. in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über neue Nachrichten des „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg" aus Bulgarien . . . . . 9391.
„ „ 10. — Interim. Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Der Sultan nimmt Mr. White als Botschafter an 9392.
„ „ 10. Russland. Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Kaulbars lässt der bulgarischen Regierung einen energischen Tadel für Inhalt und Form ihres Circulars aussprechen . . . . . 9393.
„ „ 10. — Derselbe an denselben. Erklärt die Wahlen für gesetzwidrig und ungültig . . . . . 9394.
„ „ 11. — Derselbe an denselben. Beschwerde über Gewaltthätigkeiten des Volkes und der Polizei gegen das russische Consulat und die in dasselbe geflüchteten bulgarischen Bauern . . . . . 9395.
„ „ 11. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über Bauernunruhen bei den Wahlen durch den russischen Vertreter hervorgerufen, die reservirte Haltung des diplomatischen Corps diesem gegenüber und weitere Ausschreitungen russischer Unterthanen 9396.
„ „ 11. — Derselbe an denselben. Die bulgarische Regierung ersucht die Grossmächte, die Angelegenheiten Bulgariens in unmittelbare Betrachtung zu nehmen; Versöhnung mit Russland ist aussichtslos; die Regierung erwartet den Vorschlag eines Kandidaten für den Thron 9397.
„ „ 11. — Min. des Ausw. an den neu ernannten Botschafter in Constantinopel. Generalinstruktion . . . . . 9398.
„ „ 12. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Stellung der Pforte zu der Wiederaufnahme der diplomatischen Beziehungen zwischen Serbien und Bulgarien . . . 9399.
„ „ 13. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an den russischen Vertreter in Sophia. Darlegung der Gründe für das Circular; Zurückweisung des energischen Tadels . . . . . 9400.
„ „ 13. — Derselbe an denselben. Begründung der Gesetzmässigkeit der Sobranjewahlen . . . . . 9401.
„ „ 13. England. Botsch. in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Kálnoky lehnt weitere Vorstellungen bei Russland ab . 9402.

1886. Oct. 13. England. Botschafter in Rom an den Min. des Ausw. Stellung Italiens zur bulgarischen Frage, Urtheil Robilants über die Politik der bulgarischen Regierung . 9403.
„ „ 13. — Vertreter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Freycinet lehnt eine Meinungsäusserung über die bulgarische Angelegenheit ab und erwartet zunächst eine solche von Deutschland und Oesterreich . . . . . 9404.
„ „ 14. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über den guten Fortgang der Verhandlungen zwischen Serbien und Bulgarien und die serbischen Forderungen in dem Bregowastreite . . . . . 9405.
„ „ 14. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Bericht über ein Gespräch mit dem russischen Botschafter über das Verfahren des Generals Kaulbars und seinerseits eingelegte Verwahrung gegen eine etwa beabsichtigte Besetzung Bulgariens von Seiten Russlands . . . . . 9406.
„ „ 14. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an den russischen Vertreter in Sophia. Uebersendet ein Schreiben des bulgarischen Ministers des Innern über die Vorgänge am Wahltage in Sophia und macht für die vorgefallenen Unruhen allein die regierungsfeindliche Partei verantwortlich . 9407.
„ „ 16. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Die bulgarische Regierung hat beschlossen, dass das Alexander-Regiment hinfort den Namen des Fürsten weiter tragen soll . . . . . 9408.
„ „ 16. Italien. Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Lässt die bulgarische Regierung zur grössten Vorsicht und Besonnenheit in Verfolgung ihrer Politik ermahnen 9409.
„ „ 16. Bulgarien. Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Mächte in Sophia. Anzeige der Einberufung der Sobranje, um sich wegen der Fürstenwahl mit der Pforte und den Grossmächten in Verbindung zu setzen . . . . . 9410.
„ „ 17. England. Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. Die bulgarische Regierung hat die Pforte um Mittheilung ihrer Ansicht über die Lage in Bulgarien gebeten und die Entsendung eines Agenten nach Constantinopel vorgeschlagen . . . . . 9411.
„ „ 17. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Instruction 9412.

Griechenland. (S. auch Bulgarische Frage.)

1886. Jan. 3. England. Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Besorgnisse Kálnokys wegen der Rüstungen der Balkanstaaten und Anregung zur Herbeiführung der Abrüstung 9032.
„ „ 4. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in Wien. Vorschlag, auch die Türkei zur Abrüstung zu veranlassen . . 9033.
„ „ 6. — Derselbe an denselben. Erklärt Englands Bereitwilligkeit zur Herbeiführung der Abrüstung der Balkanstaaten durch die Grossmächte . . . . . 9034.
„ „ 9. — Derselbe an denselben. Vorschläge Oesterreichs und Bedenken Englands . . . . . 9035.
„ „ 11. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Russland hat den Entwurf einer Kollektivnote an Griechenland, Serbien und Bulgarien vorgelegt . . . . . 9036.
„ „ 13. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Türkische Besorgnisse über die Haltung Englands und Ersuchen, neue Schritte zur Herbeiführung der Abrüstung zu unternehmen . . . . . 9037.
„ „ 14. — Consul in Volo an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die griech. Rüstungen, den Zustand der Armee und das Stocken des Handels . . . . . 9038.
„ „ 18. Griechenland. Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Athen. Antwort auf die Kollektivnote, Ablehnung der Abrüstung . . . . . 9039.

1886. Jan. 18. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. Vorschlag an Deutschland, Griechenland den Angriff zur See zu verwehren, im Falle der Zustimmung auch die andern Mächte zu gemeinsamem Vorgehen aufzufordern . . . . . 9040.

„ „ 19. — Botsch. in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Deutschland wird dem Vorgehen Englands sich anschliessen, auch wenn die andern Mächte nicht theilnehmen . . 9041.

„ „ 21. — Botsch. in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Französische Bedenken gegen den Vorschlag Englands . . . . . 9042.

„ „ 21. — Botsch. in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Russland stimmt dem engl. Vorschlage zu . . . . . 9043.

„ „ 22. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Antwort auf den Vorschlag Russlands . . . . . 9044.

„ „ 23. — Botsch. in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Frankreich stimmt den Vorschlägen Englands unter Vorbehalt zu 9045.

„ „ 23. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die beim griech. Ministerpräsidenten erhobenen Vorstellungen . . . . . 9046.

„ „ 24. Griechenland. Min. des Ausw. an den englischen Gesandten in Athen. Antwort auf die von England erhobenen Vorstellungen . . . . . 9047.

„ „ 24. England. Gesandter in Athen an den griechischen Min. des Ausw. Antwort auf die griechische Note . . . 9048.

„ „ 25. — Botschafter in Rom an den Min. des Ausw. Italienische Vorbereitungen zur See; Vorschlag, die internationale Flotte nach Kreta zu senden . . . . . 9049.

„ „ 25. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. Im Falle des Ablehnens der andern Mächte soll er die Note im Verein mit dem deutschen Gesandten dennoch überreichen . . . . . 9050.

„ „ 26. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Deutschland wird auch ein Panzerschiff zu der internationalen Flotte senden . . . . . 9051.

„ „ 26. — Instruction für den Befehlshaber der Flotte in der Suda-Bai . . . . . 9052.

„ „ 27. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Frankreich lehnt die Entsendung von Schiffen zur internationalen Flotte ab . . . . . 9053.

„ „ 27. — Botschafter in Rom an den Min des Ausw. Bericht über die Instruktion des italienischen Admirals . . 9054.

„ „ 27. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Die Flagge Russlands wird bei der internationalen Flotte vertreten sein . . . . . 9055.

„ Febr. 8. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. Das neue Ministerium wird in der griechischen Frage die Politik des alten einhalten . . . . . 9056.

„ „ 15. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen und die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. Griechische Anfragen und englische Erklärung über die Stellung des Kabinets Gladstone zur griechischen Frage . . . . 9057.

„ „ 17. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. Erklärung Frankreichs, weshalb es keine Schiffe zu der internationalen Flotte entsende . . . . . 9058.

„ „ 18. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Stimmung in Griechenland . . . . . 9059.

„ März 8. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten und den Gesandten in Athen. Besorgnisse wegen neuer Truppenaushebungen in Griechenland und Vorstellungen an die griechische Regierung . . . . 9060.

„ „ 12. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über russische Vorstellungen in Athen und die Unnachgiebigkeit Delyannis' . . . . . 9061.

1886. März 15. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. Bericht über seine Auffassung der Lage . . . . . 9062.
„ „ 19. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Französische Vermittelungsversuche auf Grundlage der Aeusserungen Trikupis' . . . . . 9063.
„ „ 25. Frankreich. Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Griechenland rüstet zum Kriege . . . . . 9064.
„ „ 26. England. Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über neue Kriegsvorbereitungen Griechenlands 9065.
„ „ 29. Frankreich. Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. Räth Griechenland dringend ab vom Kriege . . . . 9066.
„ „ 30. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Besorgnisse und Vorstellungen wegen der Abfahrt der russischen Schiffe aus der Suda-Bai . . . 9067.
„ „ 31. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Russland will sich betreffs der Flottendemonstration nicht von den Mächten trennen . . . . . 9068.
„ „ 31. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Erneute Vorstellungen wegen der Abfahrt der russischen Schiffe . . . . . 9069.
„ April 1. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Die russischen Schiffe sind nach der Suda-Bai zurückbeordert . . . . . 9070.
„ „ 1. Frankreich. Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Schilderung der Situation in Athen . . . . . 9071.
„ „ 2. England. Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Berlin, St.-Petersburg, Wien und Rom. Vorschläge über Ausführung der Blokade . . . . . 9072.
„ „ 3. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Zustimmung Bismarcks zu dem Blokadevorschlage . . . . 9073.
„ „ 3. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Antwort Kálnokys auf den Blokadevorschlag . . . . . 9074.
„ „ 3. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Antwort Giers' auf den Blokadevorschlag . . . . 9075.
„ „ 5. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Konferenzschluss, identische Note an Bulgarien, Griechenland und Serbien mit der Anzeige der Genehmigung des ostrumelischen Abkommens . . . . . 9076.
„ „ 5. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Vorlagen der griechischen Regierung an die Kammer und die Stimmung in Athen . . . . . 9077.
„ „ 9. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. Einwände Oesterreichs und Deutschlands gegen den Blokadevorschlag . . . . . 9078.
„ „ 11. Griechenland. Rede des Ministerpräsidenten nach der Kammersitzung am 11. April vom Balkon seines Hauses an das Volk . . . . . 9079.
„ „ 12. Türkei. Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. Aufforderung, auf wirksames Einschreiten der Mächte gegen Griechenland hinzuwirken . . . 9080.
„ „ 12. England. Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Instruktion . . . . . 9081.
„ „ 13. Alle Grossmächte. Die Vertreter in Athen theilen der griechischen Regierung die Beschlüsse der Constantinopler Conferenz mit . . . . . 9082.
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„ „ 16. Griechenland. Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Athen. Antwort auf die Collectivnote vom 13. April . . . . . 9084.
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„ „ 27. „ 9128.
„ „ 27. „ 9129.
„ „ 27. „ 9130.
„ „ 28. „ 9132.
„ „ 28. „ 9133.
„ „ 30. „ 9138.
„ Mai 1. „ 9139.
„ „ 1. „ 9140.
„ „ 2. „ 9143.
„ „ 2. „ 9144.
„ „ 4. „ 9147.
„ „ 4. „ 9148.
„ „ 6. „ 9151.
„ „ 8. „ 9154.
„ „ 9. „ 9156.
„ „ 11. „ 9160.

Griechenland.

1886. Jan. 18. No. 9039.
„ „ 24. „ 9047.
„ April 11. „ 9079.
„ „ 16. „ 9084.
„ „ 27. „ 9124.
„ „ 29. „ 9136.
„ Mai 6. „ 9150.
„ „ 15. „ 9165.
„ „ 16. „ 9166.
„ „ 21. „ 9171.
„ „ 31. „ 9187.
„ Juni 7. „ 9197.

Grossbritannien (England).

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. Febr. 5. No. 8936.
„ „ 7. „ 8937.
„ „ 9. „ 8938.
„ „ 9. „ 8939.
„ „ 9. „ 8940.
„ „ 11. „ 8941.
„ „ 12. „ 8943.
„ „ 15. „ 8947.
„ „ 16. „ 8949.
„ „ 18. „ 8954.

1886. Febr. 20. No. 8958.
„ „ 21. „ 8959.
„ „ 21. „ 8960.
„ „ 22. „ 8961.
„ „ 22. „ 8962.
„ „ 22. „ 8963.
„ „ 23. „ 8964.
„ „ 23. „ 8966.
„ „ 24. „ 8967.
„ „ 26. „ 8970.
„ „ 27. „ 8971.
„ „ 27. „ 8972.
„ März 1. „ 8974.
„ „ 3. „ 8976.
„ „ 6. „ 8980.
„ „ 9. „ 8982.
„ „ 12. „ 8983.
„ „ 13. „ 8984.
„ „ 14. „ 8985.
„ „ 15. „ 8986.
„ „ 24. „ 8987.
„ „ 24. „ 8988.
„ „ 25. „ 8989.
„ „ 26. „ 8990.
„ „ 27. „ 8991.
„ April 5. „ 8995.
„ „ 5. „ 8996.
„ „ 5. „ 8997.
„ „ 12. „ 9001.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Union:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Zollgrenze:

1886. März 6. No. 8980.
„ „ 20. „ 9024.

Bulgarische Revolution:

1886. Mai 1. No. 9199.
„ „ 7. „ 9200.
„ „ 7. „ 9201.
„ „ 10. „ 9202.
„ „ 14. „ 9203.
„ „ 19. „ 9204.
„ „ 19. „ 9205.
„ „ 23. „ 9207.
„ „ 23. „ 9208.
„ „ 27. „ 9209.
„ Juni 3. „ 9210.
„ „ 6. „ 9211.
„ „ 9. „ 9212.
„ „ 10. „ 9213.
„ „ 10. „ 9215.
„ „ 12. „ 9216.
„ „ 12. „ 9217.
„ „ 14. „ 9218.
„ „ 14. „ 9219.
„ „ 15. „ 9221.
„ „ 15. „ 9292.
„ „ 15. „ 9223.
„ „ 16. „ 9224.
„ „ 18. „ 9225.
„ „ 19. „ 9226.
„ „ 22. „ 9227.
1886. Juni 23. No. 9228.
„ „ 23. „ 9229.
„ „ 26. „ 9232.
„ „ 30. „ 9233.
„ Juli 2. „ 9234.
„ „ 10. „ 9235.
„ „ 15. „ 9236.
„ „ 22. „ 9238.
„ „ 24. „ 9240.
„ „ 24. „ 9242.
„ „ 27. „ 9243.
„ „ 28. „ 9244.
„ Aug. 1. „ 9245.
„ „ 2. „ 9246.
„ „ 4. „ 9247.
„ „ 4. „ 9248.
„ „ 11. „ 9249.
„ „ 11. „ 9250.
„ „ 12. „ 9251.
„ „ 12. „ 9252.
„ „ 13. „ 9253.
„ „ 14. „ 9255.
„ „ 14. „ 9256.
„ „ 20. „ 9258.
„ „ 22. „ 9264.
„ „ 22. „ 9265.
„ „ 22. „ 9266.
„ „ 23. „ 9267.
„ „ 23. „ 9268.
„ „ 23. „ 9270.
„ „ 23. „ 9271.
„ „ 23. „ 9272.
„ „ 24. „ 9275.
„ „ 24. „ 9276.
„ „ 24. „ 9277.
„ „ 24. „ 9278.
„ „ 24. „ 9279.
„ „ 24. „ 9280.
„ „ 25. „ 9282.
„ „ 26. „ 9284.
„ „ 26. „ 9286.
„ „ 26. „ 9287.
„ „ 27. „ 9288.
„ „ 27. „ 9289.
„ „ 28. „ 9290.
„ „ 28. „ 9291.
„ „ 28. „ 9292.
„ „ 28. „ 9293.
„ „ 30. „ 9297.
„ „ 30. „ 9298.
„ „ 31. „ 9301.
„ Sept. 1. „ 9302.
„ „ 1. „ 9303.
„ „ 2. „ 9304.
„ „ 2. „ 9305.
„ „ 2. „ 9306.
„ „ 3. „ 9307.
„ „ 3. „ 9308.
„ „ 3. „ 9309.
„ „ 4. „ 9310.
„ „ 5. „ 9311.
„ „ 5. „ 9312.
„ „ 6. „ 9313.
„ „ 6. „ 9314.

1886.	Sept.	6.	No.	9315.
„	„	6.	„	9316.
„	„	7.	„	9319.
„	„	7.	„	9320.
„	„	7.	„	9322.
„	„	9.	„	9324.
„	„	9.	„	9325.
„	„	9.	„	9326.
„	„	11.	„	9327.
„	„	11.	„	9331.
„	„	12.	„	9329.
„	„	13.	„	9332.
„	„	13.	„	9333.
„	„	14.	„	9334.
„	„	14.	„	9335.
„	„	14.	„	9336.
„	„	15.	„	9337.
„	„	15.	„	9339.
„	„	16.	„	9341.
„	„	17.	„	9342.
„	„	19.	„	9345.
„	„	19.	„	9346.
„	„	20.	„	9350.
„	„	21.	„	9352.
„	„	22.	„	9353.
„	„	24.	„	9354.
„	„	25.	„	9356.
„	„	26.	„	9357.
„	„	29.	„	9360.
„	„	29.	„	9361.
„	„	30.	„	9362.
„	„	30.	„	9363.
„	Oct.	1.	„	9364.
„	„	1.	„	9365.
„	„	2.	„	9366.
„	„	3.	„	9371.
„	„	3.	„	9372.
„	„	3.	„	9373.
„	„	3.	„	9374.
„	„	4.	„	9375.
„	„	4.	„	9378.
„	„	5.	„	9379.
„	„	5.	„	9380.
„	„	5.	„	9381.
„	„	6.	„	9382.
„	„	8.	„	9384.
„	„	8.	„	9385.
„	„	9.	„	9386.
„	„	9.	„	9389.
„	„	9.	„	9390.
„	„	10.	„	9391.
„	„	10.	„	9392.
„	„	11.	„	9396.
„	„	11.	„	9397.
„	„	11.	„	9398.
„	„	12.	„	9399.
„	„	13.	„	9402.
„	„	13.	„	9403.
„	„	13.	„	9404.
„	„	14.	„	9405.
„	„	14.	„	9406.
„	„	16.	„	9408.
„	„	17.	„	9411.
„	„	17.	„	9412.

Griechenland:

1886.	Jan.	3.	No.	9032.
„	„	4.	„	9033.
„	„	6.	„	9034.
„	„	9.	„	9035.
„	„	11.	„	9036.
„	„	13.	„	9037.
„	„	14.	„	9038.
„	„	18.	„	9040.
„	„	19.	„	9041.
„	„	21.	„	9042.
„	„	21.	„	9043.
„	„	22.	„	9044.
„	„	23.	„	9045.
„	„	23.	„	9046.
„	„	24.	„	9048.
„	„	25.	„	9049.
„	„	25.	„	9050.
„	„	26.	„	9051.
„	„	26.	„	9052.
„	„	27.	„	9053.
„	„	27.	„	9054.
„	„	27.	„	9055.
„	Febr.	8.	„	9056.
„	„	15.	„	9057.
„	„	17.	„	9058.
„	„	18.	„	9059.
„	März	8.	„	9060.
„	„	12.	„	9061.
„	„	15.	„	9062.
„	„	19.	„	9063.
„	„	26.	„	9065.
„	„	30.	„	9067.
„	„	31.	„	9068.
„	„	31.	„	9069.
„	April	1.	„	9070.
„	„	2.	„	9072.
„	„	3.	„	9073.
„	„	3.	„	9074.
„	„	3.	„	9075.
„	„	5.	„	9076.
„	„	5.	„	9077.
„	„	9.	„	9078.
„	„	12.	„	9081.
„	„	13.	„	9083.
„	„	16.	„	9085.
„	„	16.	„	9086.
„	„	17.	„	9087.
„	„	19.	„	9089.
„	„	19.	„	9090.
„	„	20.	„	9092.
„	„	21.	„	9096.
„	„	21.	„	9097.
„	„	21.	„	9098.
„	„	22.	„	9101.
„	„	23.	„	9103.
„	„	24.	„	9105.
„	„	24.	„	9107.
„	„	26.	„	9115.
„	„	27.	„	9126.
„	„	27.	„	9127.
„	„	28.	„	9131.
„	„	29.	„	9134.

1886. April 29. No. 9135.
„ „ 30. „ 9137.
„ Mai 2. „ 9142.
„ „ 3. „ 9145.
„ „ 3. „ 9146.
„ „ 7. „ 9152.
„ „ 9. „ 9155.
„ „ 10. „ 9158.
„ „ 11. „ 9159.
„ „ 12. „ 9161.
„ „ 13. „ 9162.
„ „ 13. „ 9163.
„ „ 15. „ 9164.
„ „ 17. „ 9167.
„ „ 18. „ 9168.
„ „ 20. „ 9170.
„ „ 22. „ 9173.
„ „ 22. „ 9175.
„ „ 24. „ 9177.
„ „ 25. „ 9169.
„ „ 26. „ 9179
„ „ 27. „ 9180.
„ „ 27. „ 9181.
„ „ 28. „ 9182.
„ „ 28. „ 9183.
„ „ 29. „ 9184.
„ „ 31. „ 9186.
„ Juni 1. „ 9188.
„ „ 1. „ 9189.
„ „ 2. „ 9190.
„ „ 2. „ 9191.
„ „ 2. „ 9192.
„ „ 4. „ 9193.
„ „ 6. „ 9195.
„ „ 8. „ 9198.

Ostrumelien, Organisches Statut:

1886. Aug. 4. No. 9248.
„ „ 11. „ 9249.
„ „ 12. „ 9258.

Thronreden, Adressen etc.:

1886. April 11. No. 9079.

Grossmächte, alle.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. Jan. 31. No. 8931.
„ April 10. „ 8998.

Griechenland:

1886. April 13. No. 9082.

Grossmächte ausser Frankreich.

Griechenland:

1886. April 25. No. 9108.
„ „ 26. „ 9121.
„ Mai 6. „ 9149.
„ „ 8. „ 9153.
„ Juni 7. „ 9196.

Italien.

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. Febr. 24. No. 8968.
„ April 5. „ 8997.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Union:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Revolution:

1886. Aug. 21. No. 9262.
„ „ 26. „ 9285.
„ „ 28. „ 9294.
„ „ 30. „ 9296.
„ Sept. 9. „ 9321.
„ „ 19. „ 9347.
„ „ 28. „ 9359.
„ Oct. 3. „ 9376.
„ „ 8. „ 9383.
„ „ 16. „ 9409.

Griechenland:

1886. April 19. No. 9091.
„ „ 26. „ 9120.
„ „ 27. „ 9123.

Konferenzstaaten (Türkei, Oesterreich-Ungarn, Deutschland, Russland, Grossbritannien, Italien, Frankreich).

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Oesterreich-Ungarn.

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Union:

1886. April 5. No, 8997.

Russland.

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. Jan. 6. No. 8916.
„ „ 20. „ 8922.
„ „ 21. „ 8923.
„ „ 29. „ 8930.
„ April 5. „ 8997.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Union:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.

Bulgarische Revolution:

1886. Aug. 31. No. 9300.
„ Sept. 18. „ 9344.
„ „ 19. „ 9348.
„ „ 27. „ 9358.
„ Oct. 2. „ 9368.
„ „ 4. „ 9377.

1886. Oct. 9. No. 9388.
„ „ 9. „ 9389.
„ „ 10. „ 9393.
„ „ 10. „ 9394.
„ „ 11. „ 9395.

Serbien.

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. März 3. No. 8978.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. Jan. 4. No. 8915.
„ März 3. „ 8978.

Bulgarische Revolution:

1886. Juli 19. No. 9237.
„ „ 24. „ 9241.
„ Aug. 16. „ 9257.

Thronreden, Adressen etc.:

1886. Juli 19. No. 9237.
„ „ 24. „ 9241.

Türkei.

Bündnisse, Conventionen etc.:

1886. März 3. No. 8978.
„ April 5. „ 8997.
„ „ 20. „ 9002.

Bulgarische Frage:

1886. Febr. 12. No. 8944.
„ „ 18. „ 8955.
„ März 3. „ 8978.
„ „ 5. „ 8979.
„ April 5. „ 8997.
„ „ 20. „ 9002.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Union:

1886. April 5. No. 8997.
„ „ 20. „ 9002.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Zollgrenze:

1886. März 10. No. 9014.

Bulgarische Revolution:

1886. Aug. 13. No. 9254.
„ „ 23. „ 9269.
„ Sept. 8. „ 9323.

Griechenland:

1886. April 12. No. 9080.
„ Mai 9. „ 9157.
„ „ 21. „ 9172.
„ „ 22. „ 9174.
„ „ 23. „ 9176.
„ „ 25. „ 9178.
„ „ 30. „ 9185.
„ Juni 4. „ 9194.

Bulgarische Frage*).

Nr. 8915. **SERBIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den serbischen Gesandten in Paris. Vorfragen bezüglich der Friedensverhandlungen. [G. 323.]

(Télégramm.) Belgrade, le 4 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8915. Serbien. 4. Jan. 1886.

Le Ministre de Turquie m'a communiqué que la Sublime Porte a invité le Prince Alexandre à nommer un Délégué pour assister Madjid-Pacha dans les négociations de la paix à conclure, et m'a prié de faire nommer de notre part deux Délégués et de les envoyer à Sofia. J'ai répondu qu'il n'y aura aucune difficulté pour la nomination des Délégués, mais que préalablement je désirerais avoir une réponse sur les deux points suivants: || 1. Les Délégués turc et bulgare auront-ils les mêmes et uniques instructions, ou chacun d'eux en aura-t-il séparément de son Gouvernement respectif? || 2. Les Délégués représenteront-ils la Bulgarie du Traité de Berlin ou la Bulgarie du Nord et du Sud de l'Acte de Tirnovo? || Quant à la question du lieu où les Délégués seront réunis pour entrer en négociations, je n'ai encore rien répondu officiellement; mais j'ai déjà fait connaître verbalement que la Serbie ne pourra accepter pour siège des négociations ni Sofia ni Constantinople, cette dernière ville soulevant les mêmes objections que Sofia, depuis que la Porte a fait connaître la base sur laquelle elle entend placer les négociations. || Nous avons désigné pour notre délégué M. Myatovitch, notre Ministre à Londres.

Garachanine.

Nr. 8916. **RUSSLAND.** Telegraphisches Rundschreiben des Min. des Ausw., die Balkanstaaten zu gleichzeitiger Demobilisirung zu veranlassen. [G. 325. B. 25.]

Saint-Pétersbourg, les 25 décembre 1885 et 6 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8916. Russland. 6. Jan. 1886.

Le désir d'une issue pacifique des complications orientales a été manifesté par toutes les Puissances. Bien qu'un accord unanime n'ait pu se produire à la Conférence de Constantinople sur la solution pratique de la crise, l'action

*) Fortsetzung des vorigen Bandes Die Actenstücke sind entnommen aus dem Blaubuch 'Turkey No. 2 (1886)' [in den Ueberschriften = B], dem Bd. 46 S. 287 genannten französischen Gelbbuch [= G] und der dritten Serie des ebendagenannten italienischen Grünbuches [= Gr.]

Nr. 8916. Russland. 6. Jan. 1886. des Cabinets s'est exercée efficacement en commun pour arrêter les hostilités entre la Bulgarie et la Serbie. Cette action reste incomplète aussi longtemps que les États de la presqu'île des Balkans maintiendront leurs armements dans l'attente des éventualités qu'il s'agirait de prévenir. Une démobilisation générale écarterait ce péril et permettrait de rechercher avec plus de sécurité une solution pacifique des difficultés actuelles. Le Cabinet impérial en a le sincère désir. Il croit que cela répondrait aux vœux et aux intérêts de l'Europe, aussi bien qu'à ceux des États balkaniques qui s'épuisent par la prolongation d'une attitude réciproquement menaçante. Dans cette conviction le Cabinet de Saint-Pétersbourg propose aux Puissances de s'associer à lui pour faire une démarche collective énergique auprès des Gouvernements de Belgrade, Sofia et Athènes, en vue d'une démobilisation générale et simultanée que la Porte ne refuserait pas d'imiter. Vous êtes prié de communiquer cette proposition au Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité. En cas d'adhésion, veuillez l'inviter à munir sans délai ses Représentants sur les lieux des instructions nécessaires pour une action collective et immédiate dans le sens susindiqué. De Giers.

Nr. 8917. **FRANKREICH.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den französischen Min. d. Ausw. Fürst Bismarck besorgt, dass Griechenland von Frankreich unterstützt wird. [G. 327.]

(Télégramme.) Berlin, le 8 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8917. Frankreich. 8. Jan. 1886. Le Comte Herbert de Bismarck m'a parlé avec quelque inquiétude de l'agitation des Grecs, qui se croient ou se prétendent soutenus par certaines Puissances. La publication dans *le Temps* d'un article favorable aux revendications helléniques, coïncidant avec une correspondance de même couleur adressée de Paris au *Times*, au moment où les Grecs renouvellent leurs démarches auprès des Cabinets, semble avoir éveillé des doutes. J'ai dit au Comte Herbert de Bismarck que la France n'avait pas cessé de donner à la Grèce les conseils les plus sages et les plus fermes, bien que toujours sous une forme amicale. || L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre a également tenu un langage de nature à rassurer la Chancellerie allemande. Courcel.

Nr. 8918. **FRANKREICH.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Collectivnote der Grossmächte bezüglich der Demobilisirung [G. 336.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes le 11 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8918. Frankreich. 11. Jan. 1886. Je me suis associé aujourd'hui à la démarche collective, c'est-à-dire, d'après ce qui a paru préférable à tous mes Collègues, à la signature d'une note rédigée par le Ministre de Russie.

En voici le texte: „Les Grandes Puissances, unanimement résolues à préserver la paix dans la Péninsule balkanique et convaincues que leurs efforts dans ce but seraient stériles, tant que les Etats de la Péninsule resteraient sous les armes, sont tombées d'accord pour engager les Gouvernements grec, serbe et bulgare à procéder à une démobilisation immédiate et simultanée que le Gouvernement ottoman est tout disposé à imiter. En suite de l'accord établi à cet égard, entre les Puissances, les soussignés ont été chargés par leurs Cabinets respectifs d'inviter le Gouvernement royal à prendre sans retard les mesures nécessaires pour la démobilisation de ses forces de terre et de mer. || Les soussignés, en s'acquittant de ces ordres, ont l'honneur de prier le Président du Conseil de vouloir bien leur faire connaître, aussitôt que possible, le délai le plus bref dans lequel la démobilisation des forces helléniques pourra s'effectuer, afin qu'ils puissent mettre leurs Cabinets respectifs à même d'établir entre les trois États balkaniques la simultanéité d'action si indispensable dans l'intérêt de la paix non moins que dans celui de ces États". || J'aurais mieux aimé une démarche verbale et surtout un texte moins impératif; mais, après quelques observations, je ne pouvais que signer un document qui avait obtenu l'adhésion unanime. Moüy. Nr. 8918. Frankreich 11. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 8919. FRANKREICH. — Botsch. in London an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Ansichten Salisburys.

(Télégramme.) Londres, le 15 janvier 1886.

A propos des pourparlers directs engagés entre le Gouvernement ottoman et le Prince Alexandre, Lord Salisbury m'a donné les informations suivantes: La Porte est disposée à nommer le Prince Gouverneur de Roumélie pour trois ans; celui-ci trouve que ce terme n'est pas suffisant et laisserait la porte ouverte aux intrigues; il réclame un minimum de dix ans et Lord Salisbury croit qu'un accord pourra s'établir sur cette base, bien que lui-même eût préféré une nomination à vie. Il n'a pas connaissance d'un arrangement annoncé par quelques journaux, d'après lequel les troupes bulgares et roumélliotes, sous le commandement du Prince, seraient à la disposition de la Porte pour marcher soit contre la Serbie, soit contre la Grèce. Il croit que ce bruit a été mis en circulation pour inquiéter les Grecs. Quant au désarmement, la Serbie et la Grèce ont refusé d'accueillir la recommandation des Puissances, et Lord Salisbury voit de grandes difficultés à l'imposer de force. | „D'autre part, m'a-t-il dit, les Grecs parlent de faire une guerre maritime à la Turquie, d'attaquer ses ports, de détruire son commerce. En ce cas il serait bien difficile aux Puissances méditerranéennes de ne pas intervenir; car elles ne pourraient tolérer une pareille perturbation dans leurs intérêts commerciaux." || Revenant ensuite à la question bulgare, il m'a dit que certains indices lui faisaient supposer que le Gouvernement russe se préparait à dé- Nr. 8919. Frankreich. 15. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 8919. Frankreich. 15. Jan. 1886.

clarer que, puisque le *statu quo* établi par le Traité de Berlin n'était plus maintenu, il demanderait l'unification de la Bulgarie et de la Roumélie. || En somme, il a manifesté une certaine confiance dans la solution de la question bulgare proprement dite d'ici au mois de mars; mais il se montre inquiet à l'endroit des événements qui peuvent surgir en Serbie et surtout en Grèce. || Le Chargé d'affaires de Grèce, que j'ai vu hier, affirme hautement que son pays ne peut pas reculer et qu'il vaut mieux pour lui jouer le tout pour le tout, autrement il perdrait tout son prestige sur les populations helléniques de l'Empire ottoman. Waddington.

Nr. 8920. **FRANKREICH.** — Gesandter in Belgrad meldet, dass Serbien Entwaffnung verweigert. [G. 342.]

(Télégramm.) Belgrade, le 16. janvier 1886.

Nr. 8920. Frankreich. 16. Jan. 1886.

La réponse du Gouvernement serbe à la proposition du désarmement est poliment, mais nettement négative. Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères fait remarquer qu'il serait imprudent de désarmer, au moment où les négociations pour la paix ne sont même pas engagées. Il ajoute que la suggestion des Puissances est en opposition avec le texte de la Convention d'armistice, puisque celle-ci règle la procédure à suivre en cas de reprise des hostilités.

Millet.

Nr. 8921. **BULGARIEN.** — Antwort auf die Collectiv-Note. Annahme der Demobilisirung. (Gerichtet an den englischen Vertreter.) [B. 185.]

Sophia, le 7 (19) Janvier 1886.

Nr. 8921. Bulgarien. 19. Jan. 1886.

Le Soussigné, Ministre Princier des Affaires Étrangères, n'a pas manqué de soumettre au Conseil la note collective que MM. les Représentants des Grandes Puissances à Sophia lui ont adressée le 30 Décembre (11 Janvier) de ce mois. || Sur l'initiative du Cabinet Impérial de Russie qui, le Gouvernement Princier se plaît à le reconnaître encore à cette occasion, ne cesse de s'intéresser du sort des États Balcaniques en général, et en particulier à celui de la Principauté, les Grandes Puissances ont bien voulu proposer la démobilisation des armées, dans l'intérêt des forces vives et économiques de ces États. || Après avoir pris l'avis de ses collègues, le Soussigné a l'honneur de faire à M. le Représentant d'Angleterre la déclaration suivante:

Appréciant la haute valeur des vues exposées et du désir exprimé au nom des Puissances au sujet de la démobilisation et en faveur de la paix, le Gouvernement de Son Altesse déclare être prêt à démobiliser dès que la Serbie, qui prend en fait de jour en jour une attitude de plus en plus menaçante, se sera antérieurement engagée formellement de démobiliser, ou dès que les

Grandes Puissances voudront bien assurer l'oeuvre de la paix et garantir que le territoire de la Principauté ne sera pas de nouveau attaqué et envahi, comme le cas s'est présenté de la part de la Serbie. || En priant M. le Représentant de la Grande-Bretagne de vouloir bien communiquer d'urgence ce qui précède à son haut Gouvernement et faire connaître sa décision le plus tôt possible, afin que le Gouvernement Princier puisse prendre les dispositions en conséquence, le Soussigné profite, &c. Tsanow. Nr. 8921. Bulgarien. 19. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 8922. **RUSSLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London schlägt neue Schritte der Grossmächte zur Erhaltung des Friedens auf der Balkanhalbinsel vor. Nach der Mittheilung an das englische Cabinet. [B. 91.]

(Télégraphique.) Le 8 (20) janvier 1886.

Gouvernements de Serbie et de Grèce ayant répondu d'une manière déclinatoire à la proposition de démobilisation, tandis que le Gouvernement Bulgare subordonne son adhésion à celle de la Serbie, le Gouvernement Impérial croit que, vu l'urgence de prévenir des collisions avant le printemps, les Puissances ne sauraient rester dans cette impasse, mais doivent faire un second pas plus accentué dans le sens du rétablissement du pied de paix. Ce but pourrait être atteint si les Cabinets se concertaient pour déclarer à toutes les parties qu'elles se prononceront catégoriquement contre l'agresseur quel qu'il soit, prendront les intérêts de la partie attaquée, et ne permettront aucune modification territoriale quelle que soit l'issue de la lutte. || Veuillez communiquer cette proposition au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique en le priant, s'il y adhère, de munir sans délai ses Représentants à Belgrade, Sophia et Athènes des instructions nécessaires, afin de concerter à cet effet une démarche collective avec leurs collègues. Nr. 8922. Russland. 20. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 8923. **RUSSLAND.** — Circular-Depesche des Min. des Ausw. Russland wird sich Maassregeln gegen Griechenland anschliessen. [G. 350.]

9 (21) janvier 1886.

En considération du mal qu'une lutte entre la Grèce et la Turquie causerait au commerce général ainsi que de l'absence de tout prétexte valable de guerre, le Gouvernement anglais propose de faire savoir immédiatement et collectivement à Athènes qu'une attaque navale contre la Turquie ne sera pas tolérée. Nous avons déjà fait parvenir à notre Ministre en Grèce l'ordre de se joindre à ceux de ses Collègues qui seraient autorisés à s'associer à la démarche collective proposée par l'Angleterre. Nr. 8923. Russland. 21. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 8924. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen berichtet dem Min. über das schroffe Vorgehen Englands. [G. 353.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 23 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8924. Frankreich. 23. Jan. 1886. Le Ministre d'Angleterre a déclaré aujourd'hui au Président du Conseil, de la part de son Gouvernement, que, dans le cas où la Grèce attaquerait la Turquie sans motif légitime, l'Angleterre s'opposerait directement à toute action navale. D'après les renseignements que j'ai recueillis, mon Collègue se serait exprimé dans les termes les plus vifs. Le Conseil des Ministres délibère en ce moment sur la réponse à faire. J'ai su que le texte du projet en discussion, qui sera soumis demain au Roi, qualifie la démarche anglaise d'attentatoire à la dignité du Roi et à l'indépendance de la Grèce, et annonce que, si l'Angleterre persiste dans ses intentions, la Grèce se considérerait immédiatement comme en état de guerre avec la Turquie. Moüy.

Nr. 8925. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. ertheilt dem Gesandten in Athen Instruction. [G. 354.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 23 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8925. Frankreich. 23. Jan. 1886. Je vous autorise à vous joindre à une nouvelle démarche collective des Représentants des Puissances à Athènes, en vue d'empêcher une guerre maritime entre la Grèce et la Turquie. || J'ajoute, à titre confidentiel et pour votre information strictement personnelle, que nous avons réservé notre liberté d'appréciation en ce qui touche l'emploi éventuel de mesures coercitives. Il importe que le Gouvernement grec n'ait pas connaissance de cette réserve, afin que l'efficacité de la démarche des Puissances n'en soit pas affaiblie. Il est d'ailleurs essentiel que la rédaction collective ne contienne pas quelque formule qui nous engagerait personnellement dans le sens d'un recours à la force. Je vous recommande d'y veiller. C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 8926. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen berichtet über die aufgeregte Stimmung in der Bevölkerung. [G. 357.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 24 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8926. Frankreich. 24. Jan. 1886. La démarche du Ministre d'Angleterre a vivement surexcité l'opinion. Le langage des journaux est extrêmement belliqueux. La réponse définitive adressée à mon Collègue par le Cabinet grec porte en substance que le Gouvernement considérerait une action navale de la part de l'Angleterre comme attentatoire à la dignité du Roi et à l'indépendance de la Grèce, et que le Gouvernement hellénique déclinerait la responsabilité d'un conflit. || Une manifestation de 3 à 4,000 personnes de toutes les classes de la société s'est rendue cette

après-midi au Palais pour remettre au Roi une adresse protestant contre la démarche anglaise qualifiée *d'offense à la Souveraineté nationale*, déclarant les Hellènes prêts à tout sacrifice pour la défense de leurs droits, et faisant appel à tous les peuples en faveur de la juste et sainte lutte que la Grèce est sur le point d'engager. || Le Roi n'a pas reçu la Députation et l'a renvoyée au Président du Conseil. La foule a traversé la ville en silence et s'est rendue chez M. Delyannis. Celui-ci, entouré des Ministres, a reçu l'adresse et a répondu par une allocution dont le sens général est que le Gouvernement, fidèle gardien des droits de l'hellénisme, les défendra jusqu'au dernier moment.

Moüy.

Nr. 8926. Frankreich. 21. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 8927. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen berichtet über die Collectivnote der Grossmächte. [G. 358.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes le 24 janvier 1886.

Sur la demande du Ministre d'Angleterre, les Représentants des Puissances se sont réunis, pour préparer une note collective en vue d'empêcher une guerre maritime entre la Grèce et la Turquie. || Voici le texte de ce document qui vient d'être remis au Président du Conseil:

Nr. 8927. Frankreich. 24. Jan. 1886.

„Sur la proposition du Gouvernement britannique, les Grandes Puissances se sont entendues pour charger les soussignés de faire au Gouvernement hellénique la déclaration suivante: || En vue de l'absence de tout motif légitime de guerre de la part de la Grèce contre la Turquie et des préjudices qu'une pareille guerre porterait aux intérêts pacifiques et notamment au commerce d'autres nations, aucune attaque navale de la Grèce contre la Turquie ne saurait être admise."

Ce texte a été rédigé par le Ministre d'Angleterre. Les derniers mots étaient: *ne sera pas tolérée*. J'ai indiqué les mots: *ne saurait être admise*, comme réservant les décisions ultérieures qu'il conviendrait aux divers Gouvernements d'adopter. Cette rédaction a été adoptée.

Moüy.

Nr. 8928. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in Paris. Mitgeth. an die französ. Regierung. Klage über die Haltung Griechenlands. Wünscht Intervention der Mächte. [G. 365.]

(Remis au Président Conseil, Ministre des Affaires étrangères, par Essad-Pacha, le 26 janvier.)

Constantinople, le 26 janvier 1886.

L'effervescence des esprits en Grèce, qui s'est produite par des manifestations d'aspiration étrange et d'inexplicable ambition et par des préparatifs militaires absolument injustifiables, n'est un mystère pour personne. || Les Puissances, dans leur juste appréciation et pour de hautes raisons humanitaires

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auxquelles nous nous plaisons à rendre hommage, se sont refusées dès le début à reconnaître la raison d'être d'un tel état de choses et, après avoir prodigué des conseils de sagesse et de prudence au Cabinet d'Athènes, elles viennent, d'après ce que nous apprenons, de recommander collectivement à la Grèce de désarmer dans un bref délai. || Nonobstant ces justes et salutaires recommandations, la Grèce croit devoir n'y attacher aucune valeur et prend une attitude de plus en plus belliqueuse. || Le Gouvernement impérial qui, par pure déférence au voeu des Grandes Puissances, s'est imposé naguère et gratuitement des sacrifices territoriaux considérables, sous la promesse donnée à cette époque que ces sacrifices étaient destinés à fermer à jamais toute issue à de nouvelles revendications de cette nature, ne saurait à l'heure qu'il est rester indifférent devant une attitude aussi provocante et tendant uniquement à préjudicier sans aucun droit les intérêts les plus chers de l'Europe. || La Turquie est redevable aux Puissances de vouloir bien apprécier sa modération, sa longanimité dans cette circonstance et le désir qui l'anime comme elles-mêmes de voir la paix et les intérêts généraux à l'abri de toute atteinte; mais, en présence de la gravité de la situation qui exige un prompt remède, elle ne peut s'empêcher de déclarer qu'elle se verra obligée de relever, à son regret, le défi de la Grèce et qu'à la moindre provocation de sa part elle ne saurait plus se soustraire au devoir que l'honneur et la dignité de l'Empire lui imposent et dès lors, à l'obligation de rendre le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Hellénique responsable de toutes les conséquences du conflit qui viendrait malheureusement à éclater ainsi que des graves préjudices matériels exigeant déjà une compensation et résultant pour nous de la concentration de troupes que nous avons dû faire sur les frontières par suite des préparatifs militaires et des démonstrations agressives qui y ont lieu de la part de la Grèce.

Toutefois avant de recourir à ces mesures extrêmes, nous considérons comme un devoir pour nous de faire, encore une fois, appel aux Puissances en les priant de vouloir bien inviter, d'une manière catégorique, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi Georges à procéder au désarmement de la Grèce dans le plus bref délai et à prendre ainsi en sérieuse considération toutes les raisons qui militent en faveur de la paix, de l'humanité et des rapports de bon voisinage qui doivent exister entre les deux États. || Veuillez donner lecture et laisser copie de cette dépêche à M. le Ministre des Affaires étrangères et me transmettre au plus tôt la réponse de Son Excellence à cet égard.

Saïd.

Nr. 8929. FRANKREICH. — Rundschreiben des Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter Frankreichs über die Haltung Frankreichs Griechenland gegenüber. [G. 371.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 26 janvier 1886.

Nr. 8929. Frankreich. 26. Jan. 1886.

Aujourd'hui Essad-Pacha m'a remis copie d'une dépêche du Ministre ottoman des Affaires étrangères, au sujet de l'effervescene des esprits en

Grèce et de l'utilité qu'il y aurait à ce que les Grandes Puissances renouvellassent, dans l'intérêt de la paix, leurs démarches auprès du Gouvernement du Roi Georges. Saïd-Pacha se montre à la fois inquiet et irrité de l'attitude de la Grèce. Il déclare que le Gouvernement ottoman est prêt à relever le défi qu'on lui adresse, et exprime même l'idée que la Porte peut déjà exiger une compensation pour les graves préjudices matériels que les armements de la Grèce lui ont causés. || Sans entrer dans aucune discussion avec Essad-Pacha, je lui ai fait observer que, depuis le moment où la dépêche de Saïd-Pacha a été préparée, une démarche collective a été faite par toutes les Puissances auprès du Gouvernement hellénique pour lui faire savoir qu'une agression injustifiée de sa part contre la Porte ottomane ne serait pas admise. Notre Ministre à Athènes a participé à cette démarche, conformément aux instructions que je lui avais adressées. A défaut de tout autre sentiment, l'intérêt traditionnel que nous portons à la Grèce devait nous conseiller de tenir au Cabinet d'Athènes un langage assez net et assez énergique pour lui faire sentir qu'elle risquait de se jeter dans la plus dangereuse aventure, et qu'elle n'avait à compter ni sur l'appui matériel, ni sur l'appui moral d'aucune Puissance. || J'ai eu l'occasion de voir hier matin le Chargé d'affaires de Grèce à Paris. Je n'ai pas dissimulé à M. Criésis les appréhensions que nous faisait éprouver pour son pays l'imprudence où son Gouvernement semblait vouloir s'engager. Je lui ai dit que, quelles que fussent les sympathies plus ou moins vives des diverses Puissances à l'égard de la Grèce, toutes étaint unies pour blâmer ses velléités agressives, et pour en laisser à sa charge les conséquences éventuelles. J'espère que ce langage, dans la bouche d'un ami de la Grèce, mais d'un ami éclairé sur les périls de la situation, aura produit une impression salutaire: je n'ai rien négligé pour cela. || Nous n'avons donc, pour le moment, aucune nouvelle démarche à faire à Athènes.

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C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 8930. **RUSSLAND.** — Rundschreiben des Min. d. Ausw. über die serbisch-bulgarischen Friedensbedingungen. Mitgetheilt dem englischen Cabinet durch den russisch. Botschafter. [B. 111.]

(Télégraphique.) St. Pétersbourg, le 17 (29) Janvier, 1886.

Pensons qu'avant l'ouverture des négociations à Bucharest il serait nécessaire que les Cabinets s'accordassent à notifier aux Gouvernements Serbe, Bulgar et Turc que, tout en réservant aux parties en cause de conclure la paix, les Grandes Puissances entendent que cette paix soit prompte, sérieuse, qu'elle ne s'écarte pas de la situation existante avant la guerre en vertu du Traité de Berlin, sauf réglement du différend antérieur sur certains points de la frontière, et qu'elle ne touche pas aux questions politiques dont solution

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appartient exclusivement à l'Europe. || Les trois parties seraient invitées à donner des instructions dans ce sens à leurs Plénipotentiaires, en leur enjoignant de tenir les Représentants des Grandes Puissances à Bucharest au courant des négociations et de prendre en considération leurs avis. Il serait également nécessaire que ces derniers fussent munis d'instructions analogues les invitant, sur la base des principes ci-dessus, à n'agir que de concert. | Informez-nous par télégraphe.

Nr. 8931. ALLE GROSSMÄCHTE. — Collectivnote an Serbien. Die Grossmächte werden im Falle eines neuen Krieges sich gegen den Angreifer erklären [B. 123.]

Nr. 8931. Alle Grossmächte. 31. Jan. 1886.

Les Soussignés ont l'honneur d'annoncer à son Excellence M. Garachanine, Président du Conseil et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, que leurs Gouvernements respectifs, ayant pris connaissance des réponses des Gouvernements de Serbie et de Grèce par rapport à la proposition qui leur avait été faite le 30 Décembre, 1885 (11 Janvier, 1886), de procéder à la démobilisation, ont constaté, avec regret, que ces réponses portaient un caractère déclinatoire. Pour sa part, la Bulgarie a subordonné son adhésion au consentement de la Serbie. || Vu l'urgence de prévenir l'éventualité de collisions prochaines, les Grandes Puissances ont décidé, sur l'initiative du Cabinet de St. Pétersbourg, de faire auprès des Gouvernements de Serbie, de Grèce et de Bulgarie une nouvelle démarche, les invitant à replacer leurs armées sur le pied de paix. A cette fin, les Grandes Puissances sont convenues, dans le cas où les hostilités éclateraient, de se prononcer catégoriquement contre l'agresseur quel qu'il soit, de prendre les intérêts de la partie attaquée, et de n'admettre aucune modification territoriale quelle que soit l'issue de la lutte. || En portant ce qui précède à la connaissance de son Excellence M. Garachanine, les Soussignés saisissent, &c.

Persiany. De Bray. R. Khevenhüller.
René Millet. Hugh Wyndham. Zanini.

Belgrade, le 19 (31) Janvier, 1886.

Nr. 8932. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den russischen Botsch. in Paris. Vorschlag einer Conferenz. [G. 388.]

Paris, le 1er février 1886.

Nr. 8932. Frankreich. 1. Febr. 1886.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

Vous avez bien voulu, avant-hier, me communiquer deux télégrammes de votre Gouvernement relatifs, l'un à notre attitude vis-à-vis de la Grèce, l'autre aux démarches qu'il pourrait y avoir lieu de faire, afin d'assurer un dénouement convenable aux négociations qui vont se poursuivre à Bucharest entre

la Serbie, la Bulgarie et la Porte. || J'ai déjà eu l'honneur de vous répondre sur le premier de ces deux télégrammes, je vais m'acquitter du même devoir pour le second. || Tout d'abord je vous demande la permission de m'expliquer avec une entière franchise sur les démarches de nature diverse qui ont déjà été tentées par les Puissances au cours des événements qui se sont déroulés dans les Balkans, depuis le mois de septembre dernier. Ces démarches, il faut l'avouer, n'ont pas toutes été couronnées de succès. La cause n'en est-elle pas que les initiatives auxquelles l'Europe a obéi sont parties de points de vue différents et n'ont presque jamais envisagé chaque fois qu'un côté du problème? De là un manque de suite inévitable dans les efforts et en même temps leur trop évidente inefficacité à détruire le mal dans sa racine. N'est-il pas à craindre que la nouvelle démarche réclamée par le Gouvernement russe n'ait le même sort que les précédentes et que nous ne nous trouvions, après comme avant, en présence de sérieuses difficultés à résoudre? || Je reconnais toutefois que la suggestion actuelle de M. de Giers s'est inspirée de considérations plus générales que les précédentes et qu'on peut y voir un acheminement à l'ordre d'idées auquel je faisais allusion. Ne conviendrait-il point d'élargir encore le cadre et de prendre la question sous son aspect le plus étendu? || A mon avis, la proposition du Cabinet de Pétersbourg gagnerait à être amendée dans le sens que voici: une nouvelle conférence aurait lieu entre les Puissances et la Porte; cette conférence aurait un triple objet:

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1° Elle évoquerait devant elle le traité de paix qui aurait été conclu à Bucharest entre la Serbie, la Bulgarie et la Porte. Elle le consacrerait après l'avoir amendé au besoin; 2° Elle évoquerait pareillement les conditions de l'accord qui paraît devoir intervenir directement entre le Prince Alexandre et le Sultan, relativement au sort de la Roumélie. Elle fixerait définitivement le sort de cette province sur la base des clauses essentielles du Traité de Berlin; || 3° Enfin elle examinerait ce qu'il pourrait y avoir lieu de faire à l'égard de la Grèce, afin de ramener le calme dans cet État et de prévenir les hostilités contre la Turquie.

Je me plais a croire que la proposition du Gouvernement russe ainsi précisée et élargie aurait grande chance d'être accueillie par les Puissances: nous nous y rallierions, quant à nous, avec empressement, dans la conviction où nous sommes qu'elle répondrait directement aux exigences de la situation et qu'elle pourrait faire cesser un état de choses menaçant, qui ne dure déjà que depuis trop de mois.

Nr. 8933. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. Rundschreiben über das Abkommen mit Bulgarien. [B. 124. G. 399.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 2 Février 1886.

Ma dépêche Circulaire du 13 Décembre dernier vous a fait une esquisse rapide et explicite des travaux de la Conférence à Constantinople, et du

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résultat de la mission pacificatrice envoyée à cette époque à Philippopoli; elle vous exposait en même temps notre vif désir de provoquer une nouvelle entente des Grandes Puissances en vue d'arriver à une solution pratique de la question Rouméliote et de mettre ainsi fin à la situation anormale et périlleuse de cette province. || A la suite de l'échange d'idées qui eût lieu à cet effet entre le Gouvernement Impérial et les Cabinets Signataires du Traité de Berlin, ceux-ci, justement préoccupés comme nous du maintien de la paix et des éventualités qui pourraient se présenter inopinément en face de l'incertitude qui plane sur l'état de choses actuel dans la Roumélie-Orientale, nous ont, à plusieurs reprises, manifesté leur désir de voir le Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman, partie la plus directement intéressée, prendre l'initiative d'une solution conciliant les intérêts généraux et les stipulations des Traités existants. Cela nous a inspiré l'idée de préparer un programme de nature à être l'objet de la reconnaissance du Prince de Bulgarie et des populations Roumélioles. || De son côté, le Prince Alexandre, pénétré d'une juste appréciation des obligations qui lui incombent vis-à-vis de la Cour Suzeraine, a, par une lettre datée du 15 Janvier dernier et soumise à Sa Majesté Impériale notre auguste Souverain, témoigné de nouveau de ses sentiments de dévouement envers le Trône, en suppliant en même temps le Sultan de lui confier le Gouvernement de la Roumélie-Orientale sous telle forme qu'il plaira à Sa Majesté. || En conséquence, le Gouvernement Impérial, fort de ses droits incontestables, et voulant donner une nouvelle preuve marquante de son esprit de conciliation et de sa déférence au voeu unanime des Puissances pour la paix, et après mûre délibération, s'est arrêté aux bases de la solution suivante, qu'il considère comme la plus propre à satisfaire à tous les intérêts, dans les limites du possible, et à sauvegarder les droits de l'Empire dans cette circonstance.

Voici ces bases: || Le Gouvernement général de la Roumélie-Orientale sera confié au Prince Alexandre de Bulgarie, sur les bases du Traité de Berlin. Tant que Son Altesse observera une attitude correcte et fidèle vis-à-vis de la Cour Suzeraine, et qu'elle consacrera ses efforts au maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité dans la province, ainsi qu'au bien-être de la population Rouméliote, elle sera confirmée dans ses fonctions directement par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, en vertu d'un Firman Impérial, qui sera renouvelé à l'expiration de chaque période de cinq années, fixée par l'Article XVII du même Traité. || Pendant tout le temps que l'administration de la Roumélie-Orientale et celle de la Principauté de Bulgarie resteront entre les mains d'une seule et même personne, le Gouvernement Impérial administrera directement, en les séparant de la Roumélie-Orientale, les villages Musulmans du Canton de Kirdjali, ainsi que les villages Musulmans connus qui sont situés du côté des montagnes du Rhodope et sont restés jusqu'ici en dehors de cette province; et ce au lieu et place du droit du Gouvernement Impérial stipulé dans le premier paragraphe de l'Article XV du Traité de Berlin. La délimi-

tation de ce canton et des villages en question sera faite par les soins d'une Commission Technique, nommée par la Sublime Porte et le Prince Alexandre, et elle sera applicable sur le terrain en y tenant naturellement compte des conditions stratégiques nécessaires au mieux des intérêts du Gouvernement Impérial. || En cas d'un mouvement en Bulgarie ou dans la Roumélie-Orientale contre le Gouvernement Impérial, les dispositions du premier paragraphe du dit Article XV seront exécutoires jusqu'au rétablissement de l'ordre. || Dans le cas où une agression étrangère aurait lieu contre la Principauté de Bulgarie ou contre la Roumélie-Orientale, qui font parties intégrantes de l'Empire, il y sera expédié le nombre nécessaire de troupes Ottomanes qui seront placées sous le commandement en chef du Prince et opéreront avec les troupes Bulgares ou Rouméliotes pour la défense de ces territoires. || Si la même agression venait à se produire contre d'autres provinces Impériales de la Turquie d'Europe, le Prince mettra au service de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan le nombre nécessaire de troupes Bulgares qui agiront avec l'armée Impériale et seront placées sous le commandement en chef des Généraux Ottomans. || Les détails concernant ces mesures seront réglés par Firman Impérial à la suite d'une entente à cet effet entre la Sublime Porte et Son Altesse. || Toutes les autres dispositions du Traité de Berlin relatives à la Principauté de Bulgarie et à la Roumélie-Orientale sont et demeurent maintenues et exécutoires. En vue d'assurer perpétuellement l'ordre et la tranquillité de la Roumélie-Orientale, ainsi que la prospérité de toutes les classes des sujets de Sa Majesté habitant cette province, une Commission nommée par la Sublime Porte et le Prince sera chargée d'en examiner le Statut Organique et de le modifier selon les exigences de la situation et les besoins locaux. A cette même occasion les intérêts du Trésor Impérial Ottoman seront pris en considération. Cette Commission achèvera ses travaux dans un délai de quatre mois. Jusqu'à ce que ces modifications soient revêtues de la sanction Impériale pour être rendues exécutoires, le soin d'administrer la province suivant les formes exigées par les circonstances actuelles sera confié à la sagesse et à la fidélité du Prince.

Tels sont les points principaux sur lesquels repose le programme que nous venons d'élaborer après un examen consciencieux, par rapport à la nouvelle situation administrative et politique à établir dans la Roumélie-Orientale. || Ce programme, qui offre les conditions les plus larges de stabilité et de bien-être pour cette province, et qui constitue la dernière limite d'extension des privilèges et immunités que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan lui accorde, dans sa sollicitude pour les sujets Rouméliotes de notre auguste Maître et pour la préservation de la paix si vivement désirée par nous aussi bien que par l'Europe, recevra, nous n'en doutons pas, l'approbation entière et unanime des Puissances. || Vous voudrez donc bien attirer sur le contenu de cette dépêche l'attention particulière du Gouvernement près duquel vous êtes accrédité, en laissant une copie à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, et prier son Excellence de vouloir bien transmettre les instructions

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nécessaires au Plénipotentiaire de son Gouvernement à la Conférence de Constantinople, pour que notre programme qui précède soit confirmé définitivement par cette haute assemblée. Saïd.

Nr. 8934. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Auswärtigen. Antwort Griechenlands auf die Collectivnote. [G. 390.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, 2 février 1886.

Nr. 8934. Frankreich. 2. Febr. 1886.

En réponse à la Note collective du 24, nous venons de recevoir du Cabinet grec une communication dont voici la partie essentielle:

„Le Gouvernement Royal a pris note de cette déclaration; mais il croit superflu d'exposer son point de vue sur une question dont il a déjà saisi les Grandes Puissances. || Pour ces motifs, il croit devoir décliner la responsabilité des conséquences d'un conflit éventuel. || Toutefois il ne croit pas devoir dissimuler qu'il considérerait tout obstacle apporté à la libre disposition de ses forces navales comme incompatible avec l'indépendance de l'État et des droits de la Couronne, et en même temps comme préjudiciable aux intérêts politiques de pays." Moüy.

Nr. 8935. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. Bericht über die Ablehnung des Vorschlages einer Conferenz. [G. 395.]

(Télégramme.) Berlin, le 3 février 1886.

Nr. 8935. Frankreich. 3. Febr. 1886.

La Chancellerie allemande a reçu du Gouvernement russe une communication semblable à celle que vous a faite le Baron de Mohrenheim, et que vous m'avez transmise dans votre télégramme d'hier. || La proposition russe a paru au Gouvernement allemand présenter des avantages pratiques, et il est disposé à y adhérer, du moins en ce sens que les Représentants des Puissances à Bucharest seraient autorisés à recevoir les communications des Plénipotentiaires de la Turquie, de la Bulgarie et de la Serbie, et à prêter leur entremise afin de faciliter les négociations pour la paix entre ces trois États. Il serait, du reste, entendu que les négociations porteraient exclusivement sur les affaires d'intérêt local débattues entre les trois États, mais que la question d'indemnité de guerre et celle du sort de la Roumélie orientale en demeureraient exclues. Si les arrangements intervenus n'étaient pas conformes aux vues des Puissances, celles-ci se réserveraient de ne pas en reconnaître la validité. || En attendant que les Puissances aient adhéré dans ces termes à la proposition russe, la Chancellerie allemande a informé le Docteur Busch, son Représentant à Bucharest, de l'ordre d'idées dans lequel elle se plaçait. || En remerciant le Comte Herbert de Bismarck de ces indi-

cations, je lui ai dit que, de votre côté, vous aviez apprécié le côté pratique et utile de la suggestion russe, mais qu'il vous semblait désirable d'étendre davantage encore l'application du principe qui en formait la base; qu'il serait temps, d'après vous, que l'action de l'Europe ressaisît les diverses questions pendantes dans la péninsule des Balkans, et qu'elle devrait se traduire par la réunion d'une Conférence chargée de résoudre ces questions toutes ensemble d'une façon définitive.

Le Comte Herbert de Bismarck me répondit que la procédure prévue par vous appartiendrait à une phase ultérieure des négociations; que la sanction européenne trouverait sa place, mais un peu plus tard; que, d'ailleurs, le Gouvernement russe était personnellement peu favorable à l'idée d'une Conférence*); qu'interrogé sur la question de savoir s'il considérait la Conférence de Constantinople comme dissoute, ou comme simplement suspendue, il avait déclaré qu'il regardait son mandat comme épuisé et qu'il avait été amené avec peine à admettre que dans certaines éventualités elle pourrait reprendre ses travaux. || D'après ces données, la Chancellerie allemande est disposée à envisager comme une combinaison satisfaisante pour l'Europe la négociation qui est sur le point de s'ouvrir à Bucharest, sous l'oeil et le contrôle des Puissances, pour le rétablissement de la paix entre la Bulgarie et la Serbie. Quant à la question de la Roumélie orientale, elle semble près d'être résolue pratiquement par un accord direct entre le Prince de Bulgarie et la Porte Ottomane. Suivant la manière de voir que le Cabinet de Berlin a adoptée, après s'être concerté avec certains autres Cabinets, une fois cet accord conclu, le mode de procéder le plus simple serait que le Sultan se chargeât d'en porter les termes à la connaissance des Puissances et de rechercher leur agrément. Il serait peu probable que quelque Puissance voulût présenter des objections contre un arrangement dont la Cour suzeraine se déclarerait satisfaite.

Le Comte Herbert de Bismarck n'a rien spécifié de nouveau relativement au mode de solution de la question grecque, qui est le troisième point du programme tracé à la Conférence dans votre lettre au Baron de Mohrenheim. Mais vous savez déjà qu'il regarde cette question comme devant être réglée et éteinte en quelque sorte par la démonstration navale des Puissances. La frégate allemande qui a pris la mer avant-hier pour rejoindre les escadres des autres nations arrivera le 14 février à Malte, et elle y trouvera alors ses instructions définitives. Le Comte Herbert de Bismarck espère qu'avant cette date la difficulté grecque pourra être aplanie, probablement par la démission de M. Delyannis.

Courcel.

*) Russland lehnte, wie der französische Botschafter in St.-Petersburg nach Hause berichtete (3. Febr. G. 397), in der That die Conferenz ab. Anm. d. Red.

Nr. 8936. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Berlin. Ueber die Stellung Deutschlands zu dem bulgarischen Abkommen. [B. 134.]

Berlin, February 5, 1886.

Nr. 8936. England. 5. Febr. 1886.

My Lord, — With reference to Sir E. Malet's telegram to your Lordship of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to state that Prince Bismarck fears that your Lordship may not apprehend aright the exact attitude of Germany regarding the arrangement between the Sultan and the Prince of Bulgaria. The Chancellor has formed this opinion from a telegram received from Count Hatzfeldt last night. || Count Bismarck has begged me to make clear to your Lordship, that the German Government has not accepted the arrangement, and although they may have, for their part, no objection to raise to it, they will certainly not take any steps before ascertaining what are the views of the other Cabinets more directly concerned; but they are, however, ready to agree to any action which will meet with general agreement. || I have, &c.

Charles S. Scott.

Nr. 8937. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Berlin berichtet über Fürst Bismarcks Ansicht bezüglich Bulgariens. [B. 143.]

Berlin, February 6, 1886.

Nr. 8937. England. 6. Febr. 1886.

My Lord, — I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that in a conversation I had to-day with Count Bismarck on the subject of the arrangement between the Sultan and the Prince of Bulgaria, his Excellency gave me to understand that France and Italy are willing, with Her Majesty's Government, to accept the arrangement; that Austria, like Germany, will only do so subject to general agreement; that Russia is inclined to object to the military arrangements proposed, and to the use of the name "Prince Alexander" instead of the title "Prince of Bulgaria." || Count Bismarck's personal opinion is, that the adoption of the title is preferable to that of the name. He not only considers, that it is more usual, but also preferable, with a view of making the arrangement applicable to the Prince's heirs or successors. || I gather, that his Excellency does not regard the insertion of the Prince's name as necessary, and considers the precaution which dictated this course as superfluous. || I have, &c.

Charles S. Scott.

Nr. 8938. ENGLAND. — Der Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Notiz, dass präsumptive das neue Ministerium in den Balkan-Angelegenheiten die Politik des alten befolgen werde. [B. 152.]

Foreign Office, February 9, 1886.

Nr. 8938. England. 9. Feb. 1886.

Sir, — In the event of your being questioned by the Turkish Ministers as to the policy of Her Majesty's Government, I authorize you to say that,

until I have seen the Turkish Ambassador and other foreign Representatives, I can have no opportunity of formally expressing our views; but that Her Majesty's Ministers are sincerely desirous of contributing to the maintenance of European peace, and that you have no reason to suppose that they contemplate any material departure from the policy of their predecessors. || I am, &c. Rosebery. Nr. 8938. England. 9. Febr. 1886.

Nr. 8939. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Paris berichtet über die französische Politik. [B. 156.]

Paris, February 9, 1886.

My Lord, || M. de Freycinet spoke to me this afternoon of the arrangement concluded between the Porte and Prince Alexander of Bulgaria. || He observed, that this arrangement was, in his opinion, very far from perfect; that he should have preferred something less transitory and precarious in its character; that, for instance, according to this arrangement, the Bulgarian question might be reopened every five years, when the time came for the renewal of Prince Alexander's powers. || He pointed out, that the arrangement modified in several important particulars the Treaty of Berlin, and that, consequently, it could not be carried into effect without the formal consent of all the Powers parties to that Treaty. || For his own part, however, although he thought the arrangement very open to criticism, he should not make any objection to it if all the other Powers accepted it. || He had, he said in conclusion, intimated this to the Ottoman Ambassador at Paris. || I am, &c. Lyons. Nr. 8939. England. 9. Febr. 1886.

Nr. 8940. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia berichtet, dass Fürst Alexander sich genöthigt sehe, Gegenrüstungen gegen Serbien zu treffen. [B. 158.]

Sophia, February 9, 1886.

My Lord, || In an interview I have just had with Prince Alexander His Highness informed me that great military preparations are being made in Servia, that the whole lenght of the frontier has been fortified, that the Servian troops have been concentrated at Pirot and along the line of the Timok, and that the reserves of the first and second class (the latter of which were not engaged in the war) have been called out. Under these circumstances, Prince Alexander cannot delay taking measures for the defence of Bulgaria, more especially as the last collective note presented by the Representatives of the Great Powers at Belgrade did not insist on the demobilization of the Servian army, and even contemplated the possibility of the renewal of hostilities. As it will be necessary for Prince Alexander to employ Nr. 8940. England. 9. Febr. 1886.

Nr. 8940. England. 9. Febr. 1886.

Eastern Roumelian troops, it is important that His Highness should pay a visit to Philippopoli, and he has telegraphed to Constantinople to ask permission to do so. His Highness intends to speak to each of the Representatives of the Great Powers on this subject, and to explain to them that he is compelled to take these precautionary measures in spite of his earnest desire for peace. || The Prince considers, that the objection raised by the Servians to the discussion of the terms of peace until Madjid-Pasha should have received his full powers as a mere pretext for gaining time, and from all the reports that reach him he is convinced that it is the intention of the Servians to recommence their attack on Bulgaria. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 8941. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St. Petersburg berichtet über Russlands Ansichten bezüglich Bulgariens. [B. 163.]

(Extract.) St. Petersburgh, February 11, 1886.

Nr. 8941. England. 11. Febr. 1886.

The Imperial Government are, I believe, sincerely desirous that the arrangement between the Prince of Bulgaria and the Sultan should not break down, but they will strenuously oppose any stipulation involving the possibility of Bulgarian troops being led under Turkish command against neighbouring Christian communities. || The Imperial Government, moreover, are very much opposed to a revision of the Organic Statute by a Turco-Bulgarian Commission to the exclusion of the other Powers: on this point it would seem easy, however, to discover some intermediate method of proceeding which should secure the fair intervention of the Powers. The influence of the Imperial Government would without doubt be favourable to an enlargement rather than a restriction of the union. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 8942. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Athen. Ueber die Haltung Frankreichs in der griech. Frage. [G. 422.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 11 février 1886.

Nr. 8942. Frankreich. 11. Febr. 1886.

J'ai fait part hier à M. Delyannis de la communication de Lord Lyons, d'après laquelle, comme vous le savez, le Cabinet de M. Gladstone a confirmé les instructions précédemment données aux Agents britanniques par le Cabinet Salisbury à l'égard de la Grèce. J'en ai profité pour reproduire avec une grande netteté les conseils que j'ai déjà donnés au Cabinet d'Athènes, au nom de notre amitié traditionelle pour la Grèce, amitié qui vient de s'affirmer encore par l'attitude réservée que nous avons gardée jusqu'ici au regard de la démonstration navale: j'ai adjuré M. Delyannis de bien faire comprendre à son

Gouvernement qu'il n'avait aucune illusion à se faire sur la ferme volonté des Puissances de réprimer toute agression et sur la résolution prise par elles de recourir collectivement ou par certaines d'entre elles aux moyens nécessaires pour faire respecter la décision de l'Europe. Je lui ai dit que de notre part non seulement aucun appui moral n'était à espérer, mais que notre blâme le plus énergique était assuré à toute tentative belliqueuse. J'ai ajouté que la Porte avait près de 150,000 hommes à jeter sur la Grèce en cas d'attaque de celle-ci, et je n'ai pas eu de peine à faire comprendre à mon interlocuteur que son Pays courait au devant d'un désastre par terre et par mer. M. Delyannis m'a promis de télégraphier immédiatement ces observations à son Gouvernement. C. de Freycinet. Nr. 8942. Frankreich. 11.Febr.1886.

Nr. 8943. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in Berlin. Erbittet die Unterstützung Deutschlands zur schleunigen Erledigung der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 174.]

(Extract.) Foreign Office, February 12, 1886.

During my conversation with the German Ambassador to-day I referred to Bulgarian matters. || I asked his Excellency whether he would be ready to recommend Prince Bismarck to instruct the German Ambassador at Constantinople to support my telegram of yesterday to Sir William White advising the omission of the stipulation for mutual defence from the Agreement, in order to secure the speedy assent of the Powers to the rest. || After some conversation, we drafted a telegram, of which I inclose a copy, which was dispatched to Berlin. Nr. 8943. England. 12.Febr.1886.

Inclosure.

Telegram dispatched by Count Hatzfeldt to Berlin.

Lord Rosebery a chargé hier télégraphiquement Mr. White de recommander au Sultan, dans son propre intérêt, de presser la solution de l'affaire Bulgare en renonçant à la condition d'assistance militaire mutuelle dans l'arrangement avec le Prince de Bulgarie. || Lord Rosebery désirerait que le Gouvernement Allemand appuie cette démarche à Constantinople, dont le but est de faciliter l'acceptation à Pétersbourg.

Il trouve que dans cette affaire le temps est extrêmement précieux et qu'il est désirable d'arriver aussitôt que possible à un réglement définitif sanctionné par les Puissances. Il est d'avis, si le Sultan suit le conseil de renoncer à la condition de l'assistance militaire, que le Gouvernement Russe n'aurait plus d'objection sérieuse a faire valoir. || C'est dans ce sens que les Ambassadeurs d'Angleterre seront chargés de s'exprimer, notamment celui en Russie, et Lord Rosebery prie le Chancelier d'autoriser M. de Schweinitz à l'appuyer dans cette démarche.

Nr. 8944. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botsch. in London. Ueber das Arrangement mit Bulgarien und die russ. Einwände. [B. 179.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 12 Février, 1886.

Nr. 8944. Türkei. 12. Febr. 1886.

Les objections faites par M. de Giers au programme d'arrangement entre la Sublime Porte et le Prince de Bulgarie sont au nombre de trois, et peuvent se résumer ainsi: —

1. Le renouvellement des fonctions du Prince sans recours à l'adhésion des Grandes Puissances;

2. La partie militaire du programme en question; et —

3. Celle relative au Statut Organique, qui viserait plutôt le Prince que le bien-être de la population.

Pour édifier le Cabinet Imperial de Russie sur le véritable caractère et le sens de cette partie objectée de notre programme, j'ai donné à notre Ambassadeur à St. Pétersbourg les explications qui suivent, en l'engageant à les soumettre à la juste appréciation de M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Ces explications les voici: — || En ce qui concerne le premier point l'Article XVII du Traité de Berlin exige l'assentiment des Puissances pour la nomination du Gouverneur-Général de la Roumélie-Orientale. C'est précisément en vue de remplir les stipulations de ce Traité que nous avons, par notre programme, présenté cette nomination à l'approbation des Puissances Signataires. || Une fois ce consentement obtenu, le renouvellement du Firman de nomination ne serait plus qu'une simple formalité dont la base aurait été préalablement admise par les Cabinets. || Quant à la seconde objection, il faudrait noter d'abord que la partie militaire de notre programme ne vise exclusivement que la question de la défense des territoires qui seraient l'objet d'une agression étrangère. Par conséquent, on ne saurait l'interpréter comme se rapportant à une idée d'agression contre la Serbie ou la Grèce. Il est vrai qu'en cas d'agression l'envoi de troupes Ottomanes pour la défense de la Bulgarie ou de la Roumélie-Orientale est du domaine des droits du Gouvernement Impérial. Mais, cette expédition militaire devant être dirigée des autres provinces de l'Empire, il serait juste qu'en compensation de ces sacrifices, ces mêmes provinces, si elles venaient à être attaquées à leur tour, eussent le droit de profiter de l'obligation réciproque des troupes Bulgares ou Rouméliotes de contribuer à leur défense. C'est sur cette base naturelle et conforme aux droits et prérogatives du Souverain territorial que repose la partie militaire de notre programme. D'ailleurs, une telle mesure de défense ne peut qu'être l'objet de la gratitude et du contentement de la population Bulgare elle même. || En ce qui touche le troisième point, la Statut Organique ne se rapporte exclusivement qu'à la Roumélie-Orientale, et lorsque les modifications reconnues utiles et nécessaires y seront introduites il est clair que

le Gouvernement Impérial ne les sanctionnerait qu'autant qu'elles seraient de nature à assurer le bien-être et la prospérité des populations de la Roumélie-Orientale. Nr. 8944. Türkei. 12.Febr.1886.

Veuillez communiquer au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique le contenu de cette dépêche, qui, tout en le mettant au courant de l'échange d'appréciations qui précède, est destiné, en même temps, à corroborer le juste point de vue auquel il a bien voulu envisager notre programme, et qui nous a valu son approbation à cet égard.

Nr. 8945. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in Wien an d. Min. des Ausw. Ueber Oestreichs Auffassung der Lage [G. 436.]

(Télégramme.) Vienne, le 15 février 1886.

Dans la conversation que je viens d'avoir avec lui, le Comte Kalnoky m'a paru un peu plus préoccupé de la situation dans les Balkans que dans notre dernier entretien. Ses appréciations nouvelles modifient sur plusieurs points celles que contenait mon télégramme d'hier*). Nr. 8945. Frankreich. 15.Febr.1886.

Le Comte Kalnoky m'a paru mécontent des retards que subissent les négociations entamées à Bucharest, retards qui ne sont pas imputables à la Porte seulement, mais aux divers contractants. La Serbie, tout en disant qu'elle ne veut pas attaquer la Bulgarie, mobilise. La Bulgarie menace d'en faire autant sans avoir toutefois, jusqu'à l'heure présente, passé à l'exécution, ainsi que le Ministre a pris soin de me le faire observer. D'autre part, comme les Serbes ne veulent pas entendre parler d'indemnité de guerre et que la Porte paraît vouloir la maintenir, au moins en principe, la Serbie se refuse à traiter avant de connaître le programme entier de l'adversaire. Dans cette situation, l'affaire n'avance pas. Le Comte Kalnoky a ajouté qu'il continuait à employer tous ses efforts pour faire entendre raison à la Serbie.

Foucher.

Nr. 8946. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Bukarest an den französischen Min. des Ausw. Stand der Friedensverhandlungen nach der übereinstimmenden Ansicht aller dortigen Vertreter der Grossmächte. [G. 437.]

(Télégramme.) Bucharest, le 15 février 1886.

Les Répresentants des Grandes Puissances sont convenus de télégraphier ce qui suit à leurs Gouvernements respectifs: Nr. 8946. Frankreich. 15.Febr.1886.

*) Dies Telegramm [G. 432] sagt, dass Graf Kalnoky glaube, die Schwierigkeiten bezügl. der Lösung der Balkanfrage würden überschätzt, und man werde zu einem friedlichen Arrangement gelangen. Anmerk. d. Red.

Nr. 8946. Frankreich. 15.Febr.1886.

„Le Ministre d'Italie nous a communiqué le texte des paroles par lesquelles le Prince Alexandre a fait savoir aux Agents des Puissances qu'il renonce à réclamer une indemnité de guerre. Mais M. Guechof n'a pas reçu d'instructions dans ce sens. || Du reste une difficulté nouvelle surgit: jusqu'à présent, nous avions pensé que le succès de la négociation serait assuré si la Bulgarie retirait sa demande. Aujourd'hui, nous constatons dans le programme serbe des points qui peuvent occasionner une rupture, la demande d'insertion d'un article prévoyant un arrangement commercial. M. Guechof déclare ne pouvoir admettre dans le traité une clause semblable. || Notre opinion unanime est que, pour hâter la conclusion, il faut, d'une part, que le Délégué bulgare reçoive sans retard l'ordre d'abandonner sa demande d'indemnité; d'autre part, que la Serbie renonce à la clause commerciale. || Une pression directe à Belgrade et à Sofia peut seule être efficace, parce que les Délégués n'ont pas des pouvoirs suffisants."

J'ajoute que, d'après mon appréciation personnelle, il y a urgence à exercer cette pression. Coutouly.

Nr. 8947. ENGLAND. — Botsch. in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über die Auffassung Oesterreichs. [B. 195.]

Vienna, February 15, 1886.

Nr. 8947. England. 15.Febr.1886.

My Lord, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of the 13th instant, repeating your telegram to Sir E. Malet of that date, and to acquaint your Lordship that in an interview which I had with Count Kálnoky this afternoon I stated to his Excellency, that your Lordship having heard that M. de Giers, on receiving the reply from the Porte to the Russian objections to the Sultan's agreement with Prince Alexander, had said that he was in communication with the Governments of the other two Empires, with whom he was anxious to act, and that he would afterwards communicate with the other Powers, your Lordship was anxious for further information respecting these communications. I should therefore be obliged, I said, for any intelligence which his Excellency would give me on the subject. || Count Kálnoky replied, that the communications which he had received from the Russian Government respecting the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement had hitherto been confined to a statement of their objections, which were three in number:

1. They objected to Prince Alexander being designated by name in the Iradé instead of „The Prince of Bulgaria." || 2. To the renewal of the nomination of the Prince as Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia without the sanction of the Powers being obtained, which was at variance with the stipulations of the Berlin Treaty. || The third, and most important objection, was the condition stipulating mutual military assistance. || The Russian Cabinet, however, Count Kálnoky stated, had not made any counterproposals, or given

any indication of the way in which they desired the arrangement changed, and he was still waiting for them. For his own part, he said, he would be ready enough to accept the arrangement as it stood subject to certain explanations, and so he had informed the Cabinet of St. Petersburgh; but at the same time, as the arrangement must receive the sanction of Russia, the objections which she entertained towards it should be taken into consideration, and met if possible. || Speaking of these objections, Count Kálnoky said he thought that the change of designation would not be likely to encounter any difficulty on the part of the Prince and the Sultan. It would, of course, make no difference in regard to his own position. || The second objection Count Kálnoky thought might be obviated by the Prince being nominated for an indefinite term instead of for five years, which he did not believe Russia would oppose. || He then spoke of the third and most important objection, the clauses stipulating mutual military assistance. [Nr. 8947. England. 15.Febr.1886.

Your Lordship is aware from my previous despatches that Count Kálnoky has always been of opinion that it was unwise to have given so much prominence to these mutual engagements for assistance, which were, he considered, calculated to arouse the susceptibility and opposition of the Russian Government. The feeling against them had been, Count Kálnoky said, very strongly pronounced in the Russian press and in Russia generally, and it would be much to be regretted that by adhering to them the whole arrangement, which was a very advantageous one for both the Sultan and the Prince, should fall through. The stipulations were, he said, practically of no importance, for the mutual support which the Sovereign and vassal would have to afford each other should a case of necessity arise, would not be invalidated by their being omitted from the arrangement. If the clauses referred to were withdrawn, there would be no longer any reasonable ground on which Russia could withhold her sanction to the arrangement. || Count Kálnoky then informed me that, in reply to the Turkish Circular communicating to him the reply of the Porte to the Russian objections, he had advised the Sultan's Government not to run the risk of losing the advantage of an arrangement so favourable to Turkey by standing out upon unimportant concessions, and that he had given advice in a similar sense at Sophia. || His Excellency added the opinion, that any changes which might be made by the Commission in the Organic Statute ought, when elaborated, to be submitted for the approbation and sanction of the Great Powers. || I have, &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 8948. **FRANKREICH.** — Vertreter in Belgrad bestätigt die Rüstungen Serbiens. [G. 443.]

(Télégramme.) Belgrade, le 16 février 1886.

La totalité du premier ban, soit 50,000 hommes, est actuellement sous les drapeaux et réparti dans les garnisons de l'intérieur. Un tiers de ces Nr. 8948. Frankreich. 16.Febr.1886.

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hommes manque tout à fait d'instruction militaire et n'a jamais été appelé pour les exercices annuels. Le second ban n'est pas encore convoqué; mais il peut l'être le 28 de ce mois, sans décret et sur un ordre du quartier général. Le Gouvernement vient de prescrire la levée d'une taxe extraordinaire de deux millions, pour procéder à des achats de chevaux destinés aux transports de montagne. Ces circonstances, jointes à celles que j'ai mentionnées dans plusieurs dépêches, ne laissent aucun doute sur la réalité des armements et ne concordent pas avec les appréciations optimistes de l'Autriche.

Je me suis mis en rapport avec mes Collègues, dont quelques-uns n'ont pas encore reçu d'instructions quant aux démarches que me prescrit Votre Excellence.

Millet.

Nr. 8949. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Vermuthung geheimer Verhandlungen zwischen den drei Kaisermächten. [B. 202.]

Foreign Office, February 16, 1886.

Nr. 8949. England. 16.Febr.1886.

Sir, || In a conversation with me this afternoon the Turkish Ambassador referred to the despatch from the Porte, of which he handed me a copy on the 13th instant, respecting the arrangement between the Sultan and Prince Alexander, and to the communications which M. de Giers said were proceeding between the three Empires with regard to that Agreement. His Excellency asked me whether I had any intelligence on the subject. || I replied, that, although I had made inquiries of the German Ambassador, he had told me that he knew nothing of these communications; and hence I was disposed to believe, that they must for the present be secret between those three Powers. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 8950. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Athen berichtet über die Politik Griechenlands. [G. 447.]

Athènes, le 17. février 1886.

Nr. 8950. Frankreich. 17.Febr.1886.

Les nouvelles qui sont parvenues en Grèce dans le courant de cette semaine par les Agences télégraphiques me paraissent y avoir sensiblement affaibli les dernières espérances auxquelles je faisais allusion dans mon dernier rapport. D'une part, en effet, l'Angleterre accentue de plus en plus sa politique et même, s'il faut en croire le *Daily News*, la flotte anglaise serait sur le point d'agir directement contre la marine grecque. De l'autre, la Russie se montrerait moins défavorable au compromis turco-bulgare, réclamerait seulement la suppression de l'alliance offensive et défensive stipulée dans cet acte, et

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accepterait à ce prix la clause de l'Union personnelle. Enfin, il faudrait s'attendre à la conclusion prochaine du Traité de paix entre la Serbie, la Bulgarie et la Porte. || Je ne sais jusqu'à quel point ces informations sont exactes; mais elles ont fait sur l'opinion publique une impression profonde. || On a appris ici avec émotion le langage que Vortre Excellence a tenu au Ministre de Grèce à Paris, et bien que ces paroles loyales et sévères n'aient pas surpris le Gouvernement auquel j'ai si souvent fait entendre des observations analogues, il est certain que cet avertissement suprême, venant directement de vous, avait une autorité toute particulière, et je sais que le Cabinet athénien en a compris la gravité. || J'eusse désiré, de mon côté, ainsi que vous m'y avez invité, par votre télégramme du 11, sinon renouveler une déclaration aussi catégorique et aussi persuasive, du moins insister auprès du Président du Conseil sur l'urgence de suivre un avis dicté par la plus évidente sagesse et la plus sincère amitié. Mais, depuis quatre jours, M. Delyannis est malade de la fièvre, alité, et ne reçoit pas. || J'ai, à deux reprises, demandé de le voir; mais je n'ai pu pénétrer jusqu'à lui. Je n'ai donc entretenu de la situation que le Secrétaire général des Affaires étrangères, M. Typaldo-Cosaki, d'ailleurs intime confident de la politique poursuivie depuis cinq mois par le Président du Conseil.

Après avoir rappelé à ce haut fonctionnaire, avec qui mes relations personnelles ont toujours été très amicales et confiantes, les paroles que Votre Excellence a adressées au Ministre de Grèce, et que ce dernier, ainsi qu'il vous l'avait promis, avait fait connaître par le télégraphe à son Gouvernement, j'ai dit à M. Typaldo qu'en effet le moment était venu de ne plus se faire aucune illusion, d'envisager la situation en face, et de mettre fin à un état de choses qui ne peut amener que la ruine de son pays. Reprenant l'historique rapide des négociations qui se sont continuées avec la Grèce depuis l'origine du conflit bulgare et dès le début des armements décrétés par le Cabinet hellène, je lui ai montré le sentiment de l'Europe s'accentuant de jour en jour davantage, les notes successives attestant l'accord des Puissances et développant avec une fermeté de plus en plus accusée leur volonté décisive de préserver la paix de l'Orient; je lui ai fait voir la série des incidents qui sont venus tour à tour prouver combien peu les espérances de la Grèce étaient fondées, à quel point les circonstances étaient défavorables, et j'ai ajouté que malgré toute la sympathie traditionnelle dont nous lui avions donné tant de preuves et dont nous venions de lui donner encore un sensible témoignage, nous regardions comme un devoir de lui dire qu'à nos yeux toute issue était fermée et qu'il n'y avait pas d'autre solution possible que de se résigner aux voeux de l'Europe. J'ai fait remarquer en outre que la France n'ayant pas pris part à la manifestation navale, il était moins pénible à la Grèce de suivre des conseils qui n'invoquaient auprès d'elle que leur force morale, que nous étions ainsi particulièrement bien placés pour lui tenir un langage dont son amour-propre n'avait rien à souffrir et qui devait à double

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titre être favorablement entendu. || Je m'abstiens de rapporter à Votre Excellence les considérations ethnographiques ou d'intérêt européen que M. Typaldo me présenta d'abord: je lui répondis en effet que je me refusais à le suivre dans cet ordre d'idées qui n'était pas, en ce moment, de ma compétence, et qui ne pouvait que compliquer la question toute pratique dont nous avions à nous préoccuper. Il développa alors les différents motifs qui rendraient impossible, dans sa pensée, un changement de politique: en premier lieu, les engagements pris par le Cabinet aussi bien envers le Parlement qu'envers le pays; en second lieu, l'opinion publique qui serait soulevée par l'abandon de la ligne de conduite adoptée et suivie; enfin le prestige du Royaume qui, par une telle décision, serait détruit en Orient.

Je n'ai pas eu de peine à réfuter ces objections de mon interlocuteur. Je lui rappelai d'abord que ni le Parlement, ni le pays, n'avaient exigé du Cabinet l'engagement de faire la guerre quand même: la Chambre avait voté, il est vrai, des subsides en hommes et en argent, mais uniquement pour mettre le Ministère en mesure de combattre si la guerre était possible et si elle présentait des chances de succès; c'était en ce sens que le Gouvernement avait accepté la responsabilité des affaires. Il tombait sous le sens que ni le Parlement, ni le pays n'avaient compris que la guerre fût certaine quoi qu'il pût advenir, et que le Ministère, en présence de circonstances absolument contraires, interpréterait à faux et outrepasserait assurément son mandat s'il affectait de croire que la guerre lui eût été imposée même dans l'hypothèse de l'isolement et d'un désastre inévitable. Il lui serait aisé de se placer sur ce terrain devant la Chambre, et s'il agissait autrement, s'il amenait des catastrophes, sous prétexte de fidélité à des engagements imaginaires, le Parlement ne manquerait pas de lui dire qu'il s'était entièrement mépris sur ses intentions et qu'il avait perdu la Grèce par une obstination aveugle. Là était, à mon sens, la vraie, la redoutable responsabilité. || En ce qui concernait l'opinion publique et la surexcitation des esprits, je croyais qu'il y avait quelque exagération dans cette façon d'apprécier le sentiment des masses. Si une partie du pays, surtout, il est vrai, dans les villes, devait ressentir avec vivacité la déception qui lui serait imposée, une partie non moins considérable verrait très volontiers le Gouvernement revenir à des idées pacifiques. En supposant même qu'il y eût quelques troubles, il me paraissait être du devoir des hommes politiques de savoir faire ce qu'ils regardaient comme bon, juste et utile sans s'arrêter à de semblables considérations. N'y avait-il pas à craindre d'ailleurs, bien plus encore, que des désastres militaires n'amenassent une agitation et des désordres beaucoup plus graves? || Enfin quant au prestige du Royaume vis-à-vis de l'Hellénisme, je croyais que l'attitude de la Grèce jusqu'ici l'avait entièrement sauvegardé, puisqu'il était démontré qu'elle ne cédait qu'à des circonstances supérieures auxquelles il était impossible de ne point se soumettre. D'autre part, n'était-il pas évident que des désastres compromettraient encore bien plus le prestige de cette influence?

M. Typaldo s'étendit alors longuement et avec une vive amertume sur l'indifférence et même le dédain que la situation de la Grèce avait rencontrés auprès des Puissances, en disant que jamais on ne lui avait offert la moindre issue, quand ce n'eût été qu'une espérance, un ajournement. Je lui répondis que je n'avais pas à discuter ici la conduite des Puissances, ignorant ce qu'elles avaient pu faire, et j'ajoutai que j'engageais le Gouvernement hellénique, en ami et de la manière la plus pressante, à bien méditer les paroles que Votre Excellence avait adressées au Ministre de Grèce; qu'elles étaient l'expression de l'intérêt sincère que la France porte à son pays. M. Typaldo, qui, pendant toute cette conversation, était resté sur la plus grande réserve pour tout ce qui concerne les résolutions ultérieures de son Gouvernement, garda le silence après ces dernières exhortations. Il ne m'est donc pas permis de présumer encore avec certitude ce que le Cabinet grec entend faire en ce moment. Toutefois, je le regarde comme assez découragé, et je crois, si du moins nul incident nouveau ne vient raviver ses espérances, qu'il accueillerait volontiers un prétexte pour sortir d'affaire. Les Puissances dont les escadres sont à la Sude préféreront peut-être brusquer les choses et il n'est pas vraisemblable qu'elles trouvent de résistance; mais s'il était possible de prévenir ce dénouement par quelque démarche amiable, ce serait rendre à ce pays un véritable service et tout au moins éviter des agitations dont j'ai dû atténuer la crainte dans mon entretien avec M. Typaldo, mais dont, en réalité, je n'envisage pas l'éventualité sans inquiétude. || J'ai l'intention, si les circonstances ne nous devancent, de pressentir, en mon nom personnel et avec toute la réserve nécessaire, le Président du Conseil dès que je pourrai le voir, pour être en mesure d'apprécier si quelque témoignage d'intérêt n'amènerait pas une solution aussi prompte et moins pénible que des mesures coercitives.

C. de Moüy.

Nr. 8950. Frankreich. 17.Febr.1886.

Nr. 8951. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter bei den Grossmächten. Theilt die Einwendungen Russlands gegen das turko-bulgarische Abkommen mit und präcisirt seine Stellung dazu. [G. 448.]

Paris, le 18 février, 1886.

[Der erste Theil enthält nur Bekanntes und ist hier fortgelassen.]

Le Baron de Mohrenheim m'a demandé mon sentiment sur la nature de ces réserves; je lui ai dit que, dès l'instant que l'Arrangement turco-bulgare ne paraissait pas devoir être adopté purement et simplement dans sa teneur par l'unanimité des Puissances, je me trouvais d'accord avec le Gouvernement impérial sur les réserves ci-dessus formulées. Toutefois, en ce qui concerne le renouvellement des pouvoirs tous les cinq ans, je serais disposé, tout en préférant la solution indiquée par lui, à accorder à la Porte, par délégation

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des Puissances, le droit de renouveler ces pouvoirs sans recourir chaque fois à leur intervention. En second lieu, faisant allusion à l'idée d'enquête qui semble contenue dans le 3e paragraphe et aux délais qui en pourraient résulter, j'ai dit, d'une manière générale, que je serai favorable à toute combinaison qui tendrait à faire aboutir l'Arrangement le plus promptement possible. Enfin, revenant sur une pensée que j'ai déjà eu occasion d'exprimer, j'ai ajouté que j'étais prêt à me rallier à la volonté des Puissances afin d'amener la fin d'une situation qui ne laissait pas d'être inquiétante pour la paix générale quelles que pussent être mes préférences pour telle ou telle solution particulière. C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 8952. **FRANKREICH.** — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. d. Ausw. Berichtet über die Bemühungen, den Frieden zu Stande zu bringen. [G. 452.]

(Télégramme.) Belgrade, le 18 février 1886.

Nr. 8952. Frankreich. 18.Febr.1886.

Le Comte de Bray nous a réunis hier. Les Représentants d'Autriche, d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre avaient déjà fait des démarches séparément pour recommander, en termes généraux, la prompte conclusion de la paix; mais ils n'avaient pas reçu l'ordre d'insister sur le retrait de la clause commerciale. Au contraire, les Représentants de Russie et d'Italie avaient des instructions identiques aux miennes. Nous avons donc concerté à trois notre langage, et après l'avoir soumis à l'approbation de nos Collègues, nous sommes allés, M. Persiani, M. Zanini et moi, trouver le Ministre des Affaires étrangères. Nous avons dit que nous venions nous associer aux démarches précédentes des autres Agents dans l'intérêt de la paix, et que, de plus, nous étions en mesure de préciser le point sur lequel portait la principale difficulté dans les négociations. Nous avons demandé si, le cas échéant, le Gouvernement royal renoncerait à l'insertion d'une clause commerciale dans le texte même du Traité, en ajoutant que cette procédure était recommandée par nos Gouvernements. Millet.

Nr. 8953. **FRANKREICH.** — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. d. Ausw. Berichtet über die Stimmung in Griechenland und eine Audienz beim König. [G. 453.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 18 février 1886.

Nr. 8953. Frankreich. 18.Febr.1886.

Le Roi m'a donné audience ce matin. || J'ai saisi cette occasion pour expliquer nettement notre opinion et notre attitude en me conformant strictement aux expressions mêmes de votre télégramme du 11. Le Roi m'a dit qu'il avait pleinement apprécié votre langage au Ministre de Grèce. Il a évité de

me laisser pressentir les intentions de son Gouvernement; mais il s'est montré dans tout le cours de l'entretien très ferme dans l'affirmation des droits de la Grèce et dans ses protestations contre l'abus de la force. Je persiste à croire qu'une démarche amiable, fournissant au Gouvernement une issue honorable, eût été préférable au recours à la violence qui peut amener des agitations et des rancunes périlleuses. Nr. 8953. Frankreich. 18.Febr.1886.

Moüy.

Nr. 8954. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Belgrad berichtet über eine türkische Note an Serbien, welche einen sehr entschiedenen Ton anschlägt. [B. 219.]

Belgrade, February 18, 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to Sir W. White's telegram to your Lordship of yesterday, copy of which he was good enough to forward to Sir F. Lascelles and to me, I have the honour to inform you, that Zia Bey, the Turkish Minister at this Court, informed me last night that he had that day communicated a telegram from his Government to the Servian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and had left him a copy of it. In this telegram the Sublime Porte commenced by calling attention to the armaments in progress in Servia as not being in harmony with the negotiations which had commenced for peace. It called to mind, that it had taken note of the declaration of the Servian Government, on the commencement of the recent war, that they would respect the rights and interests of the Ottoman Empire, and that they were waging war against the Bulgarians and not against the Principality of Bulgaria ("que son action ne visait qu'aux Bulgares et non à la Principauté"); and that even if the fortune of war were to be in their favour no territorial change, in violation of the arrangements made by the Treaty of Berlin, should ensue. But the state of affairs having since then changed, the Sublime Porte considered itself entitled to assume the defence of Bulgaria, as forming an integral part of the Sultan's dominions, in the event of its being attacked ("se croit dans son droit d'assurer la défense de la Bulgarie en cas d'attaque"). It went on to request the Servian Government to hasten the negotiations for peace, and to take steps towards demobilizing the army, adding that it was making representations in the same sense to the Government of Bulgaria. This important communication concluded by stating that if no other questions beyond the war indemnity claimed by Bulgaria arose in the course of the negotiations to render the conclusion of peace difficult, the question of the indemnity might be referred for the appreciation of the Powers ("du moment qu'en dehors de la proposition de la Bulgarie relative à l'indemnité il ne se présente rien qui puisse rendre difficile la conclusion de la paix, cette ques- Nr. 8954. England. 18.Febr.1886.

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tion pourrait être référée à l'appréciation des Puissances"). The Turkish Minister stated that the Sublime Porte requested an answer to its communication. || I have, &c. Hugh Wyndham.

Nr. 8955. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botsch. Englands (und Deutschlands). Ist bereit, nach ihrem Rath die Militär-Clausel aus dem bulgarischen Abkommen zu streichen. [B. 221.]

Nr. 8955. Türkei. 18. Febr. 1886.

J'ai l'honneur d'informer son Excellence Sir William White que, sur les conseils qu'il nous a transmis de la part de son Gouvernement, conseils appuyés par le Gouvernement Impérial d'Allemagne, pour l'élimination de la partie militaire de notre programme concernant la Roumélie-Orientale, afin d'écarter les objections de la Russie, le Gouvernement Impérial, animé du désir de ne point voir se prolonger davantage la solution de la question Rouméliote, et dans l'espoir que d'autres objections ne seraient plus soulevées, vient, par déférence pour ces conseils, de décider d'éliminer la partie militaire dont il s'agit. || Nous comptons, par conséquent, sur les bons offices du Cabinet du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique [Sa Majesté Impériale de Berlin] pour amener la Russie à adhérer à notre programme ainsi modifié, et à charger son Excellence M. de Nélidow de prendre part à la Conférence qui doit se réunir le plus tôt possible pour confirmer définitivemement le programme en question.

Constantinople, le 18 Février, 1886.

Nr. 8956. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Geschäftsträger in Constantinopel. Instruction. [G. 458.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 20 février 1886.

Nr. 8956. Frankreich. 20. Febr. 1886.

Mon télégramme du 18 courant vous a fait connaître comment j'envisageais les modifications demandées par le Gouvernement russe dans l'Arrangement turco-bulgare. Voici quelle devra être votre ligne de conduite à cet égard: || 1° Vous n'avez à prendre vous-même aucune initiative tendant à réaliser ces modifications, puisque nous nous tenons prêts à accepter l'Arrangement en bloc, dans le cas où toutes les Puissances y adhéreraient. Mais si la Russie ou quelque autre Puissance réclame une des modifications que nous approuvons, vous pourrez vous joindre à elle sans y mettre cependant assez de zèle pour prendre le premier rôle. || 2° Si cette démarche échoue, vous ne vous associeriez pas à une nouvelle tentative, à moins que la majorité des Puissances n'y fût favorable. Vous aurez soin dans cette seconde phase de vous maintenir avec la majorité, de façon à ce qu'on ne puisse pas vous

imputer l'échec final de l'Arrangement. || 3° En résumé, dans cette participation éventuelle aux demandes de modification, l'intérêt que nous attachons à marquer nos préférences et à les faire prévaloir, s'il est possible, doit finalement céder le pas à la considération décisive d'assurer la paix par l'adoption d'un Arrangement même défectueux à nos yeux. Nr. 8956. Frankreich. 20.Febr.1886.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 8957. FRANKREICH. — Geschäftsträger in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. Alle Mächte mit Ausnahme Oesterreichs unterstützen die russisch. Einwendungen gegen das bulgarische Abkommen. [G. 460.]

(Télégramme.)

Péra, le 20 février 1886.

Aujourd'hui l'Ambassadeur de Russie remettra à la Porte une note précisant les observations présentées par le Gouvernement russe sur le texte de l'Arrangement turco-bulgare. Les Représentants de toutes les Puissances ont reçu l'ordre d'appuyer cette démarche, sauf l'Ambassadeur d'Autriche; dans ces conditions, j'ai dit à M. de Nélidow que je ne voyais pas d'inconvénient à ce qu'il prononçât mon nom parmi ceux des Représentants des Puissances qui avaient des instructions dans ce sens. Mais j'attendrai, pour faire moi-même la démarche auprès du Ministre des Affaires étrangères, de savoir que le concours de toutes les Puissances est assuré, et je me tiendrai aux déclarations contenues dans votre télégramme du 16 courant. J'ai interrogé M. de Nélidow sur le véritable sens de l'observation faite par le Gouvernement russe au sujet de la solution à donner par l'Europe à la réforme du statut organique. Je lui ai demandé si la Russie adhérerait immédiatement à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare, sauf examen postérieur de la réforme, ou bien si elle retarderait son adhésion jusqu'à ce que la réforme fût examinée et approuvée par l'Europe. Il m'a dit qu'il n'était pas en mesure de me répondre sur ce point d'une manière précise. Nr. 8957. Frankreich. 20.Febr.1886.

Hanotaux.

Nr. 8958. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. Ueber den serbisch-bulgarischen Frieden und den damit zu verbindenden Handelsvertrag. [B. 227.]

Belgrade, February 20, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report to your Lordship that, I went to-day to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, in order to give effect to the instructions contained in your telegram of the 18th instant. Not finding the Minister, I saw M. Danitch and put into his hands a paper giving in French translation the substance of your Lordship's telegram, of which the inclosed is a copy. M. Danitch thanked me, and said he would transmit my communi- Nr. 8958. England. 20.Febr.1886.

Nr. 8958. England. 20. Febr. 1886.

cation to the Minister for Foreign Affairs without delay. I particularly pointed out, that I was urged to press the Servian Government to forego all mention of a Commercial and Customs Convention in the Treaty of Peace, and to accept the proposal, that a statement should be inserted in the Protocols to the effect that it should be negotiated immediately after the signature of the Treaty. I also stated, that Her Majesty's Government was agreed on this point with the Cabinets of Vienna, Berlin, Paris, St. Petersburgh and Rome. || The Representatives of Russia, France and Italy have been good enough to support my representation. The Chargé d'Affaires of Austria made a communication in much the same sense previous to me. The German Minister has not yet received instructions on the subject. || I informed Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Bucharest, by telegraph, of the nature of the communication I had made. I may mention, that I had at first thought collective action might have been adopted, and therefore delayed one day in acting upon your Lordship's orders; but when the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires told me that he had made a communication on the subject to M. Garachanine, and that he had no instructions to act with his colleagues, I went at once to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c. Hugh Windham.

Inclosure.

Mr. Windham to M. Garachanine.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique vient d'apprendre de son Agent Diplomatique à Sophia que si le Gouvernement Bulgare aurait des objections à présenter contre la mention dans le Traité de Paix d'une Convention de Commerce et de Douanes, il ne ferait aucune difficulté d'insérer dans les Protocoles une déclaration aux termes de laquelle les Agents Serbes et Bulgares, dûment accrédités par leurs Gouvernements respectifs, considéreraient comme leur premier devoir, après la conclusion de la paix, d'entrer en négociation à ce sujet. || D'ordre de son Gouvernement, le Ministre d'Angleterre à Belgrade a l'honneur de recommander au Gouvernement Royal d'accepter cet arrangement, et en le soumettant à son Excellence M. le Président du Conseil et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, il le prie de vouloir bien lui faire savoir à cet égard l'avis du Gouvernement Royal.

Belgrade, le 8 (20) Février, 1886.

Nr. 8959. **ENGLAND.** — Botsch. in Constantinopel an den Min. d. Ausw. Berichtet über die Stellung der Türkei zu den russischen Einwendungen gegen das bulgarische Abkommen. [B. 230.]

Constantinople, February 21, 1886.

Nr. 8959. England. 21. Febr. 1886.

My Lord, || with reference to the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement concerning Eastern Roumelia, M. de Nélidoff informed the Sublime Porte personally

yesterday, that the Imperial Government of Russia had no farther objections to raise beyond the three points previously mentioned, and which have now been happily reduced to two, owing to the conciliatory deference shown by the Sultan to the advice of Her Majesty's Government, supported by that of Germany. || In reply to the Ambassador's observations on the two remaining points both the Grand Vizier and Saïd-Pasha raised some difficulties, but declined to state any decided view until they had received a reply from the Powers to their last communication on the subject, and it is evident that the Sublime Porte entertains hopes that your Lordship's friendly intervention, and that of the Imperial Government of Germany, may yet bring about a result less distasteful personally to the Sultan, and one which would leave the original arrangement less interfered with than it would be if all the three Russian demands were to be adopted. || In fact, Saïd-Pasha said to me, a couple of days ago: "Avec ces trois points, qu'est-ce qui reste?"

Nr. 8959. England. 21.Febr.1886.

It might be possible to obtain the acceptance of a formula conferring the Government of Eastern Roumelia on the Prince of Bulgaria for an unlimited time, though the Sultan has hitherto shown himself unfavourable to it; but His Imperial Majesty would have still greater repugnance to have to ask the assent of the Powers every five years for continuing this arrangement; and, what is more, M. Tsanoff tells me that the Bulgarians would resent it quite as much; and I am by no means surprised at this. || Such a change, however, implies an alteration of Article XVII of the Treaty of Berlin, and necessitates the reassembling of the Conference, as it is impossible to suppose that, without a formal sanction by an international Protocol, such an important arrangement could be considered a valid one. || The adjournement of the Conference until the revision of the Organic Statute has been drafted by Turkish and Bulgarian Delegates would be not only contrary to the precedent of 1878, but would prolong a state of uncertainty and uneasiness, without any actual necessity for such a course, and would merely encourage the enemies of peace in the East, as well as those of Prince Alexander, to hope that everything could be yet unsettled. || I have, &c.

W. A. White.

Nr. 8960. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über eine Einigung der drei Kaisermächte bezüglich Bulgariens. [B. 233.]

St. Petersburgh, February 21, 1886.

My Lord, — With reference to my despatch of the 18th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that the Russian Government have, after an exhaustive interchange of views with the German and Austrian Cabinets, reduced their objections to the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement down to a minimum,

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and that on this minimum the three Governments are in full agreement. M. de Giers does not see his way to a further reduction without entirely throwing over the Treaty of Berlin, and such a course appears to him as fraught with dangerous complications, for, his Excellency argues, if we have not the Treaty of Berlin at our backs, and cannot plead the imperious necessity for the maintenance of the European peace to keep to that Treaty, what argument can we use towards Greece and Servia when they urge the hardships inflicted upon them by the *status quo*? The following is a statement of the Russian objections as they originally stood, apart, of course, from that relating to the military clauses: —

The Russian Government, whilst approving the quinquennial tenure of office by the Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia, insisted on maintaining the clause in the Treaty of Berlin which requires the assent of the Powers to the Porte's nomination. || They have now consented to accept the Austrian suggestion, that the Prince of Bulgaria should be named Governor-General for an unlimited period. || The Russian Government had proposed that an International Commission should be charged to revise the Organic Statute; they now consent to the action of the Powers being limited to an *ex post facto* sanction of the revision to be effected by a Turco-Bulgarian Commission. In M. de Giers' opinion, the Governments of Germany and Austria must be regarded as "solidaires" with the above minimized objections. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 8961. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an die englischen Botschafter in Wien, Berlin und Petersburg. Erklärt sich gegen den neuesten Vorschlag Russlands. [B. 234.]

Foreign Office, February 22, 1886.

Nr. 8961. England. 22. Febr. 1886.

Sir, — The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador called at this Office to-day to inform me, that the Imperial Government accept the modifications which Russia has proposed in the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement, and that they concur with the Russian Government in considering that the Agreement should be recorded in some form, but that the final sanction of it should be reserved for such time as the Organic Statute shall have been examined and approved by the Powers. || I have to request you to point out to the Government to which you are accredited, that the course proposed would leave the final settlement of the Bulgarian question still open, and would add to the difficulty of prevailing upon the Porte to accept the alterations in the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement desired by Russia. || Her Majesty's Government would prefer to follow the precedent established at the Berlin Congress, and to sign a Convention at once, leaving the sanction of the revised Organic Statute to be recorded in a subsequent instrument. || You should urge this view upon

the Government to which you are accredited, whose concurrence in it Her Majesty's Government desire if possible to obtain before they send instructions to the Queen's Ambassador at Constantinople with regard to the alterations still desired in the Agreement. || Should any objection be felt to a meeting of the Ambassadors at Constantinople for the purpose of signing a Convention, I have to request that you will suggest that such a Convention might appropriately be signed at Berlin, where the original Treaty was concluded in 1878. || I have reason to believe, that the Italian Government concur in the view of Her Majesty's Government on the expediency of the immediate signature of a Convention by the Powers. || I am, &c.

Nr. 8961. England. 22. Febr. 1886.

Rosebery.

Nr. 8962. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Auswärt. Der von Serbien vorgeschlagene Friedensschluss. [B. 235.]

(Extract.) Bucharest, February 22, 1886.

I have the honour to report, that I saw M. Mijatovitch this morning, who informed me that the Servian proposals were, in fact, confined to one single Article, the re-establishment of peace; that he expected to meet Madjid-Pasha and M. Guéchoff in about an hour's time, and that he should present this Article as forming the whole of the Servian proposals. M. Mijatovitch added, that he anticipated that some difficulty might be made about the wording of this Article which had been telegraphed to him from Belgrade; that he could not give me a copy of it till after the meeting, but that he would do so in the course of the afternoon.

Nr. 8962. England. 22. Febr. 1886.

I beg to inclose a copy of the Article as furnished to me by M. Mijatovitch. || The Turkish and Bulgarian Plenipotentiaries were taken by surprise, having expected from M. Mijatovitch's former attitude that a number of proposals would be submitted on the Servian side, and, in view of the altered circumstances, they considered it advisable to consult their Governments with a view to possible modifications in the Bulgarian proposals.

Inclosure.

Servian Draft of the Treaty of Peace.

Article seul et unique. — L'état de paix qui a cessé d'exister entre le Royaume de Serbie et la Principauté de Bulgarie le 2 (14) Novembre, 1885, est rétabli à partir de l'échange de ratification présent du Traité, qui aura lieu à Bukharest le . . . .

Nr. 8963. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Petersburg. Wunsch, das turko-bulgarische Abkommen baldigst vertragsmässig definitiv zu machen. [B. 236.]

Foreign Office, February 22, 1886.

Nr. 8963. England. 22 Febr. 1886.

Sir, — The Russian Ambassador came to see me to-day, with the object of speaking to me regarding the settlement of the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement on the basis of the Russian proposals. || I said, that Her Majesty's Government entertained one strong feeling on the subject, which was that the precedent of the Berlin Congress should be followed, and, accordingly, if the Russian conditions were accepted, that the Treaty should be signed at once, leaving the revision of the Organic Statute to be ratified by a subsequent instrument. I understood, however, the Russian proposal to be that the present Agreement should be recorded in a Protocol, and the final signature of the Treaty be reserved until the completion of the labours of the Commission for the re-revision of the Organic Statute. || M. de Staal observed, that it was only a question of form, and that a Protocol was as binding, or nearly so, as a Treaty. || To this I replied, that the Porte might fairly ask why we departed from the precedent of the Treaty of Berlin, and might reproach Her Majesty's Government for advocating the acceptance of the Russian proposals if it found that the Treaty was not to be immediately concluded. Under these circumstances, I had, I said, delayed making any communication to the Porte until I should have received an answer to the suggestion which I had made with regard to the signature of the Treaty. || I am &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 8964. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. Berichtet über den Widerstand der Türkei und die Unnachgiebigkeit Russlands in der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 240.]

St. Petersburgh, February 23, 1886.

Nr. 8964. England. 23. Febr. 1886.

My Lord, — I was this day informed by M. de Giers, that Germany and Austria having come to a full accord with Russia upon all the points on which the latter had raised objections to the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement, the Representatives of the two former Powers would be instructed, if this had not already been done, to hold language at Constantinople identical with that of the Russian Ambassador. || Italy, I was informed, was also, setting aside one formal point, in full agreement with the three Empires upon these questions. || I learnt, moreover, from his Excellency, that Chakir-Pasha, my Turkish colleague, had to-day entered a strong protest against the Russian objections, and pointed out that Turkey having yielded upon the military

clause, might fairly enough ask Russia to give up her other two objections. To this representation his Excellency, whilst giving no hope that Russia would cede any further, replied that it was most unwise of Turkey not to hasten to secure the sanction of Europe to the arrangement as modified, seeing how invaluable such sanction would be to Ottoman interests. I find, that my German colleague agrees with me, that it is vain to hope for further concessions on the part of the Russian Government. To press the matter further would be to run the risk of evoking a *non possumus*, and such a reply would inevitably postpone any and every settlement. || I have, &c.

Nr. 8964. England. 23. Febr. 1886.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 8965. **FRANKREICH.** — Geschäftsträger in Constantinopel an den Min. des Auswärtigen. Ueber die russischen Einwendungen gegen das bulgarische Abkommen. [G. 469.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 23 février 1886

La Porte a reçu samedi de M. de Nélidow, non pas une note officielle, mais un *memento* officieux où se trouvaient inscrites les trois objections faites par le Gouvernement russe au texte de l'Arrangement turco-bulgare. En ce qui concerne les secours militaires, les Turcs ont immédiatement cédé. || Pour ce qui touche à la réforme du Statut organique, ils montrent quelque hésitation. Mais au courant d'un entretien que je viens d'avoir avec Saïd-Pacha, et où je lui ai exposé l'avantage qu'il y avait à se saisir d'une solution même provisoire de cette question, il m'a paru incliner vers une transaction. L'Europe pourrait adhérer provisoirement en Conférence à l'Arrangement turc, en se réservant de ne donner sa sanction définitive qu'après examen des réformes proposées d'un commun accord par la Turquie et la Bulgarie. || Reste la difficulté relative au renouvellement des pouvoirs du Prince de Bulgarie, le nom du Prince Alexandre ne devant pas décidément figurer dans l'acte. Les Turcs ne paraissent pas vouloir céder actuellement à la demande de la Russie. || Celle-ci, d'autre part, tient ferme sur l'une ou l'autre alternative que vous a exposée le Baron de Mohrenheim. || Cependant M. de Radowitz, qui s'emploie très activement dans cette négociation, m'a dit qu'on ne désespérait pas de déterminer le Cabinet de Saint-Pétersbourg à accepter la combinaison suivante:

Nr. 8965. Frankreich. 23. Febr. 1886.

L'Europe donnerait aujourd'hui son adhésion à la désignation du Prince de Bulgarie comme Gouverneur de la Roumélie, et le Sultan pourrait, de sa seule autorité, lui renouveler ses pouvoirs au bout de cinq ans. Si j'ai bien compris M. de Radowitz, le Cabinet de Berlin se préparerait à agir dans ce sens à Saint-Pétersbourg. Mais M. de Nélidow croit que son Gouvernement ne fera pas de concession. L'Angleterre, qui a pris l'initiative d'appuyer la

Nr. 8965. Frankreich. 23. Febr. 1886.

première des demandes russes n'a rien fait savoir de son opinion sur les deux autres points. Sir Edward Thornton est arrivé aujourd'hui, et l'on pense qu'il a reçu des instructions à ce sujet. || L'Autriche marche d'accord avec l'Allemagne, mais en refusant la combinaison qui consisterait à désigner le Prince comme Gouverneur sans terme. Hanotaux.

Nr. 8966. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Auswärt. Ueber Oesterreichs Stellung zu dem russischen Vorschlag in der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 245.]

Vienna, February 23, 1886.

Nr. 8966. England. 23. Febr. 1886.

My Lord, — I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, and to inform your Lordship that I called on Count Kálnoky this afternoon, and acquainted him with its contents. || His Excellency observed, that there had been a misunderstanding of his meaning. || The proposal, that the Powers should simply accept, in principle, the modified arrangement between the Sultan and Prince Alexander respecting Eastern Roumelia, reserving their formal ratification of it until after the revision of the Organic Statute, did not proceed from him, but from the Russian Government. || Count Kálnoky stated, that he saw the same objection as your Lordship to so vague and informal a mode of proceeding, and that he quite shared your Lordship's opinion, that the approval by the Powers of the arrangement between the Porte and Prince Alexander should be given in some positive shape, either by the signature of a Convention or some other act. || He was, he said, indifferent as to the form, and he would concur in any which might be agreed upon between the Powers; but his Excellency added that, in his opinion, as the Organic Statute had been elaborated with the concurrence of the Powers, it would be necessary that they should be parties to any changes which might be introduced into it, and that when the business was completed the Powers should meet in Conference, and give their formal sanction to the whole arrangement by the signature of an additional solemn Act. || I understood from his Excellency, that he had already let it be known at St. Petersburgh that, in his opinion, the acceptance in principle of the Eastern Roumelian arrangement ought to be done in a form which would be equivalent to its formal recognition, and that no objection had been raised. || His Excellency was aware, that the Italian Government had concurred in your Lordship's views upon this matter, and added that he believed they had given expression to them at St. Petersburgh. The Italian Ambassador had seen his Excellency shortly before I called. || I have, &c.

A. Paget.

Nr. 8967. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Petersburg über einen russischen Vermittelungsvorschlag in der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 250.]

St. Petersburgh, February 24, 1886.

Nr. 8967. England. 24. Febr. 1886.

My Lord, — With reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 22nd instant, I have the honour to state, that the Russian Government advocate a middle course between the Austrian proposal to defer the sanction of the Powers to the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement until after revision of the Organic Statute and your Lordship's proposal; on the other hand, that the Powers should at once give their formal assent by signing a Convention at Constantinople or elsewhere, leaving the sanction of the revised Organic Statute to be recorded in a subsequent instrument. || The Russian Government suggest, on their part, the signature, as soon as an accord has been arrived at, of a Protocol by the Representatives of the Powers at Constantinople, declaring the assent of the Powers to the arrangement, and authorizing its immediate promulgation. This plan would give the character of finality wished for by Her Majesty's Government, and yet would not add to the difficulty of inducing the Porte to accept the amendments made by Russia. || The Conference, according to this plan, would not meet till the Organic Statute had been revised by Turkey and Bulgaria, and were ready to be examined by, and receive the sanction of, the Great Powers. || I have been informed by M. de Giers, that the Russian Ambassador in London is being instructed in the above sense. || I have &c. R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 8968. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Vorschlag einer vorläufigen Bestätigung des türkisch-bulgarischen Abkommens durch eine Deklaration. (Gr. 52.)

Roma, 24 febbraio 1886.

Nr. 8968. Italien. 24. Febr. 1886.

Signor ambasciatore, — Lo scambio di idee, a cui hanno fornito occasione le osservazioni e le obiezioni della Russia circa l'accordo intervenuto tra il Sultano e il principe di Bulgaria, mi sembra, stando alle notizie pervenute da più parti, avere oramai condotto le grandi potenze a conclusioni concordi. || Sono consenzienti le potenze nello ammettere la opportunità di eliminare dall'accordo turco-bulgaro le clausole militari, quelle cioè che si riferiscono alla reciproca assistenza tra l'impero e il principato nel caso in cui o l'uno o l'altro fosse assalito o minacciato. Per questa eliminazione si ha già il consenso della Sublime Porta stessa, nè parrebbe dover essere dubbio quello del governo principesco. || Le potenze sono del pari disposte ad ammettere che la carica di governatore generale di Rumelia sia affidata, non già nominativamente al principe Alessandro e per un quinquennio, come erasi concordato

Nr. 898. Italien. 24. Febr. 1886.

tra la Porta e il negoziatore principesco, sibbene al principe che governa la Bulgaria, senza designazione di persona e senza prefissione di termine. || Infine le potenze ammettono che il nuovo statuto della Rumelia orientale, dopo la revisione per opera dei delegati ottomani e bulgari, debba essere approvato e sancito dalle potenze. Rispetto a questo punto, è solo da notarsi che parecchi gabinetti si accostano a noi nel pensare che, pur riservando all'Europa la sanzione finale dello statuto riformato, non debbasi però differire, fino al giorno in cui quella sanzione sia possibile, il riconoscimento, da parte delle potenze, e la promulgazione, da parte del Sultano, dell'accordo mercè il quale sarebbe provveduto alle condizioni politiche della Rumelia. || In tale stato di cose, e considerando altresì come la soluzione della questione rumeliota abbia manifesta connessione col negoziato di pace tra la Serbia e la Bulgaria, che tutti siamo solleciti di veder riuscire a pronta conclusione, mi è sembrato assai importante che ulteriormente non si indugi a dare una forma positiva al consenso comune dei vari gabinetti rispetto all'accordo turco-bulgaro. A tale intento, ho divisato di proporre alle potenze che i rispettivi rappresentanti siano tosto incaricati di rimettere alla Sublime Porta una dichiarazione collettiva. Già Le telegrafai il testo di questo mio progetto di dichiarazione, ed ora qui ne acchiudo copia. Naturalmente converrà che alla dichiarazione stessa sia allegato il testo dell'accordo turco-bulgaro, modificato, rispetto alla designazione del principe come governatore della Rumelia, e rispetto alle clausole militari, così come oramai si è convenuto tra le potenze. || La dichiarazione enuncia sostanzialmente questo concetto: le potenze accettano fin d'ora l'accordo turco-bulgaro e consentono che sia immediatamente promulgato; esse si riservano tuttavia di procedere, in una conferenza da radunarsi a Berlino, alla sanzione definitiva e formale dell'atto, tostochè si troveranno in grado di sancire, nella stessa circostanza, anche lo statuto riveduto della Rumelia. || Ho fiducia che questa nostra proposta sia per essere accolta della potenze, e confido che, a suo tempo, la dichiarazione potrà riuscire accetta al Sultano. Intanto, così il telegramma che Le spedii stamane circa quest'argomento, come il presente dispaccio, sono per semplice informazione di Lei. Le impartirò, nel momento opportuno, qualora siano consenzienti tutte le potenze, le istruzioni necessarie per la firma e la consegna della dichiarazione. || Gradisca, ecc. C. Robilant.

(Annesso)

Projet de déclaration collective.

Les puissances acceptent dès-à-présent les dispositions contenues dans l'accord intervenu entre la Sublime Porte et la Bulgarie, modifié comme il appert par le texte ci-joint, et consentent à ce qu'il soit, sous cette forme, immédiatement promulgué.

Les puissances se réservent cependant de donner, dans une conférence qui devra se réunir à Berlin, leur sanction formelle et définitive au dit acte,

lorsqu'elles seront à même de sanctionner, dans cette occasion, aussi le Statut révisé de la Roumélie. Nr. 8968. Italien. 24. Febr. 1886.

Nr. 8969. **FRANKREICH.** — Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. Ueber einen türkischen Vorschlag zu dem serbischen Friedens-Entwurf. [G. 474.]

Bucharest, le 26 février 1886.

Le Délégué turc a reçu cette nuit par le télégraphe l'ordre de proposer une rédaction un peu différente de celle que je vous ai fait connaître hier soir. Pour ne pas blesser les Plénipotentiaires bulgare et serbe, il a cru devoir la présenter en séance officielle comme un amendement imaginé par lui-même de son propre projet. Ses deux Collègues l'ont accepté *ad referendum*. Ce soir ils ont exprimé le désir que les Puissances agissent à Belgrade et à Sofia pour obtenir qu'ils soient autorisés à l'adopter définitivement. Nous avons tous résolu d'accéder à leur demande. La nouvelle formule turque est ainsi conçue: „La paix et les relations d'amitié sont rétablies entre le Royaume de Serbie et la Principauté de Bulgarie, à dater du jour de la signature du présent Traité. Le présent Acte sera ratifié et les ratifications seront échangées à Bucharest dans un délai de quinze jours.

Coutouly.

Nr. 8969. Frankreich. 26. Febr. 1886.

Nr. 8970. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Petersburg. Ueber verschiedene Vorschläge in der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 272.]

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, February 26, 1886.

The Russian Ambassador came to see me to-day. || In the first instance, his Excellency read to me the following telegram from M. de Giers: —

"La Porte rejette l'union sans terme, et dit que les Bulgares refusent la fixation de cinq ans avec contrôle des Puissances pour la prolongation de ce terme. M. Tzanow croit que les Bulgares accepteraient une rédaction en vertu de laquelle la Roumélie serait confiée au Prince de Bulgarie conformément à l'Article XVII du Traité de Berlin. Si les autres Puissances sont d'accord nous n'objecterions pas à cette combinaison."

M. de Staal then went on to acquaint me with the text of a Declaration which the Italian Government proposed should be made to the Porte by the Representatives of the Powers at Constantinople. || It was as follows: —

"Les Puissances acceptent dès à présent les dispositions contenues dans l'accord intervenu entre la Sublime Porte et la Bulgarie tel qu'il appert du texte ci-joint . . . . . et consentent à ce qu'il soit immédiatement promulgué sous cette forme. Les Puissances se réservent de donner leur sanction for-

Nr. 8970. England. 26. Febr. 1886.

Nr. 8970. England. 26.Febr.1886.

melle au dit acte dans une Conférence qui devrait se réunir à Berlin, lorsqu'elles seront à même de sanctionner aussi de cette occasion le Statut révisé de la Roumélie."

M. de Giers, in his telegram transmitting the text of the Italian proposal to M. de Staal, had said: "Nous trouvons ce mode de procéder rationnel et pratique et y adhérons." || The Russian Ambassador inquired whether I had heard of this Italian proposal. || I replied that M. Catalani had left it with me yesterday, but that I had not yet had an opportunity of completely considering the subject. || M. de Staal observed, that the Russian Government preferred it to the Austrian proposal, to which they had hitherto given their support, as it was more precise and practical. || I thanked his Excellency for the communication which he had made to me; but I admitted, that I preferred the plan which I had myself proposed, that a definitive Treaty should be signed at once, and until I had fully considered the subject I would rather reserve my judgment on the Italian project. || I added that, in my opinion, the Russian proposal, that the Prince of Bulgaria should be named Governor of Eastern Roumelia without definition of term, was the best solution of any of those before the Powers of that part of the question, and that I should telegraph in that sense to Constantinople.

Nr. 8971. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Auswärtigen an den Botschafter in Petersburg. — Stellungnahme zu dem Vorschlag Italiens in der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 276.]

Foreign Office, February 27, 1886.

Nr. 8971. England. 27.Febr.1886.

Sir, — When I saw the Russian Ambassador to-day he asked whether I had anything further to say with regard to the Declaration which the Italian Government proposed should be made by the Powers regarding the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement, and which he had communicated to me yesterday. || I said, that to Her Majesty's Government it seemed an objection that it would not be, as they understood, in the form of a Protocol, and, further, that they thought that certain words might be inserted which would carry out the spirit of the intention of the Russian Government more efficiently. I said that, if the Imperial Government could see their way to make a change on two points, it would make a great difference in our manner of viewing the proposal. The first point was, that the Agreement should be recorded in a Protocol. The second, that the words "et mis en vigueur" should be inserted after the word "promulgué" in the Italian draft, so that it would read as follows: —

"Les Puissances acceptent dès à présent les dispositions contenues dans l'accord intervenu entre la Sublime Porte et la Bulgarie tel qu'il appert du

texte ci-joint . . . . . et consentent à ce qu'il soit immédiatement promulgué et mis en vigueur sous cette forme." Nr. 8971. England. 27.Febr.1886.

M. de Staal saw no objection himself to these suggestions, and said that he thought the Russian Government would agree to them. || I pointed out to him that, in my opinion, the form of a Protocol would be more likely than a Declaration to impress Europe, and more especially the East of Europe, with a sense of the permanency and stability of the arrangement, and that it had been the method which the Russian Government itself had originally proposed. While as regards the words I proposed to insert, they seemed only to accentuate the obvious intention of the Declaration. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 8972. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Auswärt. — Bericht über Serbiens Auffassung des Friedens mit Bulgarien. [B. 277.]

Belgrade, February 27, 1886.

My Lord, — In obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, I waited upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs this afternoon, and pressed his Excellency to accept the wording of the Article for the Treaty of Peace which had been proposed by the Sublime Porte. || M. Garachanine said, that he could not consent to the insertion of the word "friendship" ("amitié") in the Article, as he would in no way acknowledge that the differences which existed between Servia and Bulgaria before the late war had been settled, and he also declined to accept the proposed modification as to the date from which the peace was to take effect, maintaining that no Treaty could be valid until it had been ratified. || His Excellency said, that he had no *arrière-pensée* in the proposal he had made, and begged me to urge Her Majesty's Government to accept the text proposed by the Servian Government, which, he said, would conclude peace, and admit of immediate demobilization. || M. Garachanine, in the course of a very long conversation, complained of the action of the Powers, which had prevented the Servian Government from bringing forward any of its proposals for discussion, adding, also, that there had been much difference in the nature of their representations, which had caused considerable embarrassment to the Government; he also complained of the Turkish Plenipotentiary refusing to produce all his proposals for peace negotiations when M. Mijatovitch presented the Servian Article. || I replied, that I thought Servia had no reason to complain of the interference of the Powers; that for many years past no subject connected with the Eastern question had been settled without their having a share in it; that even a great Power like Russia, after her last war against Turkey, had not been permitted by Europe to conclude an arrangement with

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the Sublime Porte without the consent of the Great Powers, all of whom had interests in affairs relating to the Balkanic Peninsula; that, if, indeed, there had been some slight difference in the representations made to the Servian Government by the Representatives of the Great Powers in Belgrade (with reference to the Bregova question, for example), those Powers had all been unanimous in their desire to see peace and good relations promptly re-established between Servia and Bulgaria.

The Austrian Chargé d'Affaires had seen M. Garachanine on the previous day, and had supported the Turkish wording for the Article, but in vain, and he suggested to me (probably as his personal opinion) that it would be better to accept the Servian text. || The French and Italian Representatives were to see the Minister after me, with a view of pressing the same point. || The German Minister has instructions to act in concert with his colleagues, and is now awaiting the possible arrival of orders for M. Persiany, the Russian Minister. || I have, &c.

Hugh Wyndham.

Nr. 8973. FRANKREICH. — Consul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht, dass die Zollgrenze an die Südgrenze Ostrumeliens verlegt sei. [G. 485].

(Télégramme.) Philippopoli, le 27 février 1886.

Nr. 8973. Frankreich. 27. Febr. 1886.

La Bulgarie a effectivement transporté à la frontière turco-rouméliote la ligne de douanes qui était établie autrefois à la frontière bulgaro-rouméliote. Les produits autrichiens et allemands n'ayant jamais été importés en Roumélie orientale par voie de Bulgarie, par suite de la difficulté et de la cherté des moyens de transport, n'ont pas actuellement une situation plus favorable que celle des produits français. || Les négociants importateurs de la Roumélie orientale ont invité leurs correspondants de l'étranger à leur expédier dorénavant les marchandises par Bourgas afin d'éviter une double taxe. || Tant que la ligne de chemin de fer, qui doit relier Nisch, Sofia et Philippopoli, ne sera pas terminée, la mesure douanière prise par le Gouvernement bulgare ne causera de préjudice qu'au commerce de Constantinople et c'est seulement quand ce chemin de fer sera livré à l'exploitation que les marchandises autrichiennes et allemandes jouiraient d'une situation privilégiée.

Boysset.

Nr. 8974. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. — Einwendungen gegen den italienischen Vorschlag einer Deklaration in der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 280.]

Foreign Office, March 1, 1886.

Nr. 8974. England. 1. März 1886.

Sir, — The Italian Chargé d'Affaires called on me to-day with reference to a telegram which he had received from Count Robilant on Saturday, in which that Minister observed that, as all the other Powers had agreed to the Italian Declaration with regard to the Turco-Bulgarian Convention in its present form, perhaps Her Majesty's Government would wish to give their adherence too, without making any difficulties. || I replied, that that was our wish, but that we attached great importance to the question of the instrument being in the form of a Protocol; that we thought that this would give an appearance of greater permanance to the arrangement, and would produce an impression of greater stability in the East; that as the original proposals of Austria, Germany and Russia had all been in favour of a Protocol, the unanimity of Europe should be easily secured to this proposition; and if that were agreed to we should probably make little difficulty about the form of words proposed by the Italian Government. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 8975. **FRANKREICH.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Der Wunsch des Sultans, dass das bulgarische Abkommen nicht durch ein Protokoll, sondern eine Conferenz und zwar in Constantinopel bestätigt werde, wird erfüllt werden. [G. 497.]

(Télégramme.)

Berlin, le 2 mars 1886.

Nr. 8975. Frankreich. 2. März 1886.

On a reçu aujourd'hui l'avis que la Turquie et la Bulgarie consentaient à retrancher les mots *„relations d'amitié"* de l'article unique du Traité de paix avec la Serbie. || L'affaire de la Roumélie orientale est aussi en bonne voie. Le Sultan, qui ne s'était pas encore prononcé, paraît-il, sur la proprosition italienne et sur l'accord fait entre les Puissances, a donné son assentiment à tout ce que les Cabinets ont concerté ensemble, sous la seule réserve de la substitution du mot de Conférence à celui de Protocole pour désigner l'acte collectif par lequel les Représentants des Puissances à Constantinople autoriseront, au nom de leurs Gouvernements, la promulgation immédiate de l'arrangement turco-bulgare. || Les Ambassadenrs d'Angleterre et de Russie ayant déclaré au Comte Herbert de Bismarck que cette modification dans les termes ne leur paraissait de nature à soulever aucune difficulté, je lui ai dit, à mon tour, que vous n'y feriez sans doute pas d'objection. D'après ce que m'a fait entendre le Sous-Secrétaire d'État aux Affaires étrangères, le Sultan désire que

Nr. 8975. Frankreich. 2. März 1886.

l'accord des Puissances, destiné à lui être communiqué, émane d'une Conférence officielle tenue dans sa capitale, bien qu'il ne puisse s'agir, en fait, que d'une réunion d'une demi-heure, où les adhésions des différents Gouvernements seront simplement enregistrées. || Si j'ai bien compris, le Sultan désire aussi la convocation à Constantinople de la Conférence qui donnera aux arrangements intervenus la sanction finale, après la revision du Statut rouméliote. Ce serait, en quelque sorte, la même Conférence qui se prorogerait jusqu'au moment convenable. || Quant au travail de la revision du Statut rouméliote, le Comte Herbert de Bismarck est d'avis qu'il devra être laissé à des Commissaires turcs ou bulgares, qui, après avoir débattu ensemble les changements à opérer, pourront les soumettre aux Représentants des Puissances, avant la réunion de la Conférence. || Enfin, pour ce qui concerne la Grèce, le Comte Herbert de Bismarck persiste à croire que la conclusion de la paix entre la Bulgarie et la Serbie exercera sur le Cabinet d'Athènes une influence favorable. Courcel.

Nr. 8976. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Oesterreichische Vorschläge über Bulgarien, denen England zustimmt. [B. 309.]

Foreign Office, March 3, 1886.

Nr. 8976. England. 3. März 1886.

Sir, — The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador called on me to-day, and by instruction of his Government read to me and left with me a copy of proposals which Count Kálnoky would be willing to make if it was agreeable to Her Majesty's Government for the settlement of the questions relating to Eastern Roumelia. || The proposals were as follows:—

"1. The Austro-Hungarian Government prefer the appointment of the Prince of Bulgaria as Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia without a term to an apppointment for five years.

"2. They think a Turco-Bulgarian Commission more practical for the revision of the Organic Statute than a European one, and that only the result of their labours should be submitted to the Powers for sanction.

"3. The amended Turco-Bulgarian settlement should be communicated officially by the Porte to the Powers in its final shape, and the consent of the Powers should be expressed, in accordance with the Russian proposal, in a Protocol in the form of words proposed by Count de Robilant.

"4. When the Organic Statute has obtained the approval of the Powers a Conference should express their final sanction of the Statute as well as of the whole of the Turco-Bulgarian settlement, and should place the Berlin Treaty formally in harmony with the same."

I told Count Károlyi, that these points represented exactly the policy of Her Majesty's Government with regard to this matter, since they had ascertained that the immediate signing of a Treaty would not be practicable. His Excellency might therefore, I said, assure Count Kálnoky, that these proposals,

so far as Her Majesty's Government were concerned, would insure complete unanimity. || I am, &c. Rosebery. Nr. 8976. Frankreich. 3. März 1886.

Nr. 8977. FRANKREICH. — Geschäftsträger in Constantinpel an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland nimmt den Vorschlag Englands auf, dem Fürsten Alexander Rumelien ohne Fristbestimmung zu übertragen. (G. 502.)

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 3 mars 1886.

Nr. 8977. Frankreich. 3. März 1886.

Avant-hier, les négociations relatives à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare paraissaient terminées, la Sublime-Porte ayant accepté le texte de l'amendement proposé par M. de Nélidow au paragraphe relatif au renouvellement des pouvoirs. Hier M. de Nélidow a déclaré aux Représentants des Puissances qu'il abandonnait cet amendement et qu'il se ralliait à la proposition faite par le Cabinet anglais, de confier au Prince de Bulgarie le Gouvernement général de la Roumélie orientale *sans terme*. Cette évolution a beaucoup étonné les Turcs qui se croyaient arrivés au terme de la négociation. Ils refusent actuellement de souscrire à cette nouvelle demande de l'Europe. M. de Nélidow désire beaucoup que tous ses Collègues appuient la proposition anglaise, qui n'est d'ailleurs qu'une des solutions proposées précédemment par la Russie.

Hanotaux.

Nr. 8978. TÜRKEI, BULGARIEN, SERBIEN. — Friedensvertrag. [B. 361.]

Au nom de Dieu tout puissant!

Nr. 8978. Türkei. Bulgarien. Serbien. 3. März 1886.

Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, Empereur des Ottomans, en sa qualité de Suzerain de la Principauté de Bulgarie, Sa Majesté le Roi de Serbie et Son Altesse le Prince de Bulgarie, animés d'un égal désir de rétablir la paix entre le Royaume de Serbie et la Principauté de Bulgarie, ont muni à cet effet de leurs pleins pouvoirs,

D'une part:

Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, Abdullah Madjid-Pacha, Roumélie Beyler-Bey, Directeur de la Presse au Ministère Impérial des Affaires Étrangères, décoré de l'Ordre de l'Osmanié de troisième classe et de l'Ordre du Medjidié de quatrième classe, &c., &c., comme Premier Délégué;

Son Altesse le Prince de Bulgarie, le Sieur Ivan Evstatieff Guéchoff, Gouverneur de la Banque Nationale Bulgare, &c., &c., comme Deuxième Délégué, dont le choix a été approuvé par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan.

Et d'autre part:

Sa Majesté le Roi de Serbie, le Sieur Chedomille Mijatovich, son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire à Londres, Commandeur de l'Ordre

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Royal de l'Aigle Blanc, Grand Officier de l'Ordre Royal de Takovo, &c., &c.

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs et les avoir trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus de ce qui suit: —

Article unique. — La paix est rétablie entre le Royaume de Serbie et la Principauté de Bulgarie à dater du jour de la signature du présent Traité.

Le présent acte sera ratifié et les ratifications seront échangées à Bukharest, dans un délai de quinze jours ou plus tôt si faire se peut.

En foi de quoi les Délégués respectifs ont signé le présent Traité, et y ont apposé leurs cachets.

Fait à Bukharest, le 19 Février (3 Mars), 1886.

A. Madjid. Ch. Mijatovich.
I. E. Guéchoff.

Nr. 8979. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. Mitgetheilt dem englischen Cabinet. — Stellung der Türkei zur bulgarischen Frage. (B. 324.)

Constantinople, le 5 Mars, 1886.

Nr. 8979. Türkei. 5. März 1886.

Nous avons été sensibles à la déférence que Lord Rosebery a bien voulu nous témoigner en désirant connaître nos vues sur les deux points qui se présentent relativement au mode de procéder pour la nomination du Prince de Bulgarie au Gouvernement-Général de la Roumélie-Orientale. || Sans préjuger la manière de voir du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique sur la préférence qu'il accorde au premier point, nous devons néanmoins exprimer les appréhensions que nous inspire la portée de ce même point. || Si, dans notre programme relatif aux affaires Rouméliotes, nous nous en sommes tenus à l'Article XVII du Traité de Berlin et avons posé certaines restrictions en ce qui regarde le renouvellement quinquennal, c'était parce que nous nous trouvions en face d'une rébellion dont la justification directe aurait non seulement produit le plus mauvais effet en Turquie, mais encore porté atteinte au prestige et à la dignité du Gouvernement Impérial, qui disposait de forces suffisantes pour rétablir dans la Province Rouméliote le *statu quo ante*. || Dès lors, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique voudra bien convenir avec nous que les mêmes appréhensions qui s'étaient produites en nous à cet égard au début de la rédaction de notre programme doivent continuer à subsister, et que, par conséquent, il nous serait extrêmement difficile de nous ranger de l'avis indirectement communiqué à Londres par rapport à la nomination à vie. || Dans notre propre intérêt aussi bien que dans celui de tous, nous nous sommes arrêtés, d'accord avec le Prince Alexandre, au second point, qui nous a déjà été proposé, comme vous l'aurez constaté dans mon télégramme Circulaire de ce jour, et qui, d'ailleurs, ne s'écarte pas trop de notre programme primitif, à savoir que le Gouvernement-Général de la Roumélie-Orientale sera confié au Prince

de Bulgarie, conformément à l'Article XVII du Traité de Berlin. || Veuillez, par conséquent, vous énoncer immédiatement dans ce sens auprès de Lord Rosebery, et prier sa Seigneurie de prendre en considération ce qui précède, en voulant bien partager notre manière de voir à cet égard. Vous pouvez même, au besoin, lui remettre copie de la présente dépêche. Nr. 8979 Türkei. 5. März 1886.

Saïd.

Nr. 8980. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia. — Ueber die rumelische Zollangelegenheit. [B. 330.]

Sophia, March 6, 1886.

My Lord,—With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, I have the honour, in consequence of a conversation I have had with M. Karaveloff, to report as follows. || The costum-houses which were formerly on the frontier of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia have been moved to the Turkish frontier of the province in order to afford a visible proof of the accomplishment of the union of the two countries. || Some modifications of the Treaty of Berlin, and more especially of the Organic Statute, must necessarily be entailed by the union; but M. Karaveloff is of opinion, that the XXth Article of the Treaty of Berlin would not in any way prevent the carrying out of the proposal he has made to the Turkish Gouvernement, viz, that Eastern Roumelia should now be treated, as regards customs, in precisely the same way as Bulgaria, and that the Turkish Governement should allow goods destined for Eastern Roumelia to pass through Turkish territory on the payment of a transit duty of 1 per cent. || M. Karaveloff is in hopes, that this proposal may be adopted. His Excellency believes, that it will be found advantageous to all the parties interested, and especially to Great Britain, France and Italy, who will then be able to import their goods from Constantinople to Bulgaria overland. || His Excellency is, however, prepared to give way on this question if compelled to do so, and he has assured me that orders will be given to suspend the levying of the duties until the conclusion of the arrangement with Turkey. || It is not at all impossible, that the opponents of Prince Alexander might take advantage of the re-establishment of custom-houses on the Bulgaro-Roumelian frontier to argue that the two countries were not really united. || I have forwarded the above to Sir Edward Thornton. || I have, &c. Nr. 8980. England. 6. März 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 8981. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Geschäftsträger in Constantinopel. — Wunsch, die Betheiligung an der Conferenz von der Behandlung der rumelischen Zollangelegenheit abhängig zu machen.*) [G. 509.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 7 mars 1886.

Nr. 8981. Frankreich. 7. März 1886.

L'Ambassadeur de Turquie me demande que vous soyez autorisé à prendre part à la Conférence qui sera chargée d'approuver l'Arrangement turco-bulgare, modifié conformément aux observations des Puissances. J'ai dit à Essad que je ne faisais nulle difficulté de vous envoyer cette autorisation, sous la réserve toutefois que satisfaction nous serait donnée en ce qui concerne la douane rouméliote. Je vous prie donc, avant de participer éventuellement à la Conférence, de vous assurer que, ainsi qu'on me le mande de Sofia, la douane rouméliote a été provisoirement suspendue (au moins en ce qui concerne les produits français) et demeurera suspendue jusqu'à la revision et l'approbation définitive par les Puissances du Statut relativ à la Roumélie.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 8982. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Ueber Oestreichs Stellung zu den verschiedenen Punkten der bulgarischen Frage. [B. 340.]

Vienna, March 9, 1886.

Nr. 8982. England. 9. März 1886.

My Lord, || In an interview I had with Count Kálnoky this afternoon his Excellency was good enough to acquaint me with several items of intelligence which had reached him from Constantinople and Sophia, and which may be summed up as follows: —

The question originally raised by the French Government respecting the establishment of a customs line on the Turco-Roumelian frontier is in a fair way of settlement, although it seems that Prince Alexander only consents to forego temporarily his claim to advance the Bulgarian Customs line to the frontier of Roumelia. || Russia, his Excellency is informed, is now making some difficulty with respect to the formal sanction of the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement until after the changes in the Organic Statute have been assented to by the Powers. || With reference to this subject, his Excellency stated that, in reply to the Turkish Circular of the 3rd instant, he had authorized the Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople to take part in the Conference for the purpose of signing the Act of formal sanction, as desired by the Porte. || His Excellency then read me a confidential telegram from the Austrian Agent at Sophia, stating that he had had an interview with Prince Alexander, and sub-

*) Anmerk. der Redaktion. Frankreich forderte zugleich England und Italien auf, in dieser Angelegenheit mit ihm zusammenzugehen.

sequently with M. Karaveloff, who had both disavowed "l'avis attribué à M. Zanoff," to the effect that the Prince's nomination to the Governorship of Eastern Roumelia for five years, renewable with the sanction of the Powers, would be acceptable to His Highness and his Government; that they had telegraphed to Constantinople to make inquiries on this subject and to desire M. Zanoff to state that the Prince could only be satisfied by an appointment for life. || Count Kálnoky observed, that he would have himself preferred — and he believed that it was also the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, as well as the other Governments — the appointment for life, but that he considered that it was an unfair proceeding on the part of Prince Alexander, now at the last moment, to raise this difficulty, when he must have known long since that his nomination, according to the XVIIth Article of the Treaty of Berlin, was intended by the Porte, and had been agreed to by the Powers. His Highness should have spoken out earlier, and Count Kálnoky added that it was his intention to telegraph at once to Sophia in this sense. || I have, &c.

A. Paget.

Nr. 8982. England. 9. März 1886.

Nr. 8983. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet, dass Fürst Alexander die neue Formulirung des Abkommens verwerfe. [B. 350.]

(Extract.)

Sophia, March 12, 1886.

I have the honour to report that, in an interview I had with Prince Alexander this morning, His Highness informed me that he had addressed a telegram to the Grand Vizier, in which he expressed his regret that the XVIIth Article of the Treaty of Berlin should have been alluded to in the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement. His Highness eplained to the Grand Vizier, that he had been under the impression that the substitution of the title of „Prince of Bulgaria" for the words „Prince Alexander" necessarily implied that His Highness' nomination should not be limited in point of time, and he added that it was not possible for him to consent to an arrangement which would encourage every description of intrigue, would allow of his position, not only in Eastern Roumelia, but also as Prince of Bulgaria, to be called in question every five years. || His Highness regretted that M. Tsanow should have agreed to this arrangement, and explained to me that his having done so was due to a very unfortunate oversight. || I ventured to suggest to His Highness that, in my opinion, he would do well to accept any arrangement which would obtain the sanction of the Great Powers. The limitation was certainly a great objection; but it appeared to me important that, he should take over legally the administration of Eastern Roumelia, and I did not presume that the intrigues in that country would be more serious than those which had been directed against His Highness in Bulgaria, and which he had been able to combat

Nr. 8983. England. 12. März 1886.

Nr. 8983. England. 12. März 1886.

successfully even before his position in the country had been so firmly established by his military successes. || To this His Highness replied, that he could not consent to an arrangement which would not only furnish a weapon to his enemies, but would also indicate to them the way of using it. If at the end of five years the nomination were not to be renewed the Union would cease to exist, and another Prince of Bulgaria would have to be found to whom the administration of Eastern Roumelia should be confided. His Highness would prefer to go without the sanction of the Powers than to consent to an arrangement which would admit of the possibility of the question of his hereditary position in Bulgaria being called in question. If, therefore, the Great Powers should insist on the present arrangement, he schould consider it his duty to make a formal protest, even though he did not presume that such a protest would have any immediate effect; but it would be necessary for him to be able to produce some proof hereafter that he had been compelled against his will to accept the arrangement. I have forwarded the above to Sir Edward Thornton.

Nr. 8984. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Berichtet über den Eindruck der Weigerung des Fürsten Alexander. [B. 352.]

Constantinople, March 13, 1886.

Nr. 8984. England. 13. März 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report that the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement was on the point of receiving the sanction of the Ambassadors of the Great Powers at Constantinople, when news arrived that the Prince of Bulgaria declined to acquiesce in the proposed modifications respecting the five years' renewal, with the approval of the Powers, of his office as Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia. || I regret to say, that this decision of His Highness has created a bad impression among my colleagues. In my opinion, the Prince should be strongly advised to withdraw his dissent at once, especially as he had previously agreed in principle to the present proposal, which is met with the approval of all the Powers. || All of my colleagues, as well as myself, think that as His Majesty the Sultan has given a categorical refusal to the Prince's appointment to Eastern Roumelia for an indefinite period, it is useless attempting to revert to that idea. || I have, &c. Edwd. Thornton.

Nr. 8985. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Räth dem Fürsten Alexander, sich mit einem Protest zu begnügen. [B. 354.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, March 14, 1886, 4 p. m.

Nr. 8985. England. 14. März 1886.

We have throughout urged, with other Powers, the appointment of Prince Alexander to the Government of Eastern Roumelia without any specified term;

but now, when Convention is on point of being signed, the Prince's declaration comes too late, and is only likely to cause irritation. We cannot but regret His Highness' interposition at the last moment, and would advise him to confine himself, at all events, to a protest. Nr. 8985. England. 14. März 1886.

Nr. 8986. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexanders Gründe für seine Weigerung. (B. 357.)

Sophia, March 15, 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, and to Sir Edward Thornton's telegram of the previous day, I have the honour to report, that Prince Alexander has addressed a telegram to the Sultan to express his readiness to abide by the arrangement which His Imperial Majesty had signed with His Highness. By this arrangement His Highness' nomination would, at the end of every five years, be renewed by His Imperial Majesty alone. His Highness, however, was unable to accept the modifications which had been proposed, and which render the sanction of the Powers necessary for the renewal of his nomination. || The Prince expressed to me the very strong objections which he entertained to the Convention, as now proposed, being considered as an arrangement concluded between Turkey and Bulgaria. It was in absolute contradiction to the principles contained in the arrangement which he had concluded with the Sultan, and His Highness thought that he showed more deference to the Great Powers by giving expression now to the objections he entertained than by waiting until they should have sanctioned an arrangement against which he would be compelled to protest. || Hitherto, His Highness has given way to the Great Powers on every point which they have raised. He suspended hostilities with Servia at the very moment when his arms were being crowned with success. He accepted an armistice, the terms of which were most unfavourable to the Bulgarians, and he consented to sign a most unsatisfactory Treaty of Peace, in the belief that the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia would be insured by his yielding on these points. His Highness finds, that he cannot possibly make any further concessions. The Bulgarians, who naturally expect some advantage from their victories, were far from being satisfied even with the arrangement which His Highness had concluded with the Sultan, and are discontented with His Highness for having made so many concessions. In His Highness' opinion, M. Tsanow exceeded his powers in consenting even verbally to the modifications which had been proposed. In a case of such grave importance, His Highness considers that M. Tsanow should have applied directly to him for instructions, and should not have been satisfied with the simple approval of M. Karaveloff. His Highness has ordered M. Tsanow to leave Constantinople to-morrow mor- Nr. 8986. England. 15. März 1886.

Nr. 8986. England. 15. März 1886.

ning. || Considering that the Powers had declined to sanction the arrangement which had been signed by him and the Sultan, His Highness considered that he and His Imperial Majesty should be allowed to conclude another arrangement; but it would be impossible for him to accept any proposal by which the hereditary character of the Prince of Bulgaria could, by any possibility, be called in question, or by which the sanction of the Powers would be necessary for the renewal of his nomination. || I have forwarded the above to Sir Edward Thornton. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 8987. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander ist bereit, die von Italien vorgeschlagene Formulirung anzunehmen. [B. 391.]

Sophia, March 24, 1886.

Nr. 8987. England. 24. März 1886.

My Lord, || My Italian colleague had an audience of Prince Alexander yesterday evening, and communicated to His Highness, confidentially, the proposal of his Government*). || His Highness sent for me this morning, and requested me to inform your Lordship, hat the accepts this proposal with pleasure and gratitude, as his nomination without any limit of time would thereby be assured, and no allusion to the XVIIth Article of the Treaty of Berlin is contained in it. || I have &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 8988. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. Theilt mit, dass Russland den Protest des Fürsten Alexander zurückweist. [B. 392.]

(Extract.) Foreign Office, March 24, 1886.

Nr. 8988. England. 24. März 1886.

The Russian Ambassador called on me to-day to communicate to me two telegraphic despatches which he had just received from his Government. The first of these was dated the 21st; the second, which bore the date of yesterday, had only just arrived. || The first telegram, dated the 21st March, contained the substance of a telegraphic message from M. de Giers to M. de Nélidoff to the following effect: —

The Emperor had assented to the proposal that, the Prince of Bulgaria

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*) Anmerkung der Red. Dasselbe lautet [B. 386]:

„Le Gouvernement-Général de la Roumélie-Orientale sera confié au Prince gouvernant la Bulgarie."

should be named Governor of Eastern Roumelia without term, because it established the principle of permanence as applied to the union, and thus satisfied the solicitude of His Imperial Majesty for the welfare of the Bulgarian population. But as an agreement had been come to among all the Powers and the Porte to maintain Article XVII of the Treaty of Berlin, the Emperor does not deem it consistent with the dignity of Europe to allow that the Prince of Bulgaria should oppose its decisions or attempt to free himself from its protection. Up to the present time several Cabinets had concurred in this opinion, and had made representations at Sophia in accordance with it. If the rest of the Powers decided to proceed, and to sign the Protocol, regardless of the objections of the Prince, M. de Nélidoff was instructed to support this course and act with his colleagues.

The second telegram, dated the 23rd March, repeated a telegram from M. de Giers to M. de Nélidoff, of which the following is the substance: — || The Russian Government consider, that the determination of the Prince of Bulgaria to reject the decisions taken by general agreement between the Powers and the Porte constitutes one reason the more that Europe should maintain with firmness its resolutions and the prestige of its authority. A further act of concession, far from contributing to the pacification desired, would cause fresh complications. The audacious conduct of the Prince would not justify the union of the two Bulgarias under his rule, unless for a fixed term and under European control. An appointment less restricted would give him encouragement to put forward new pretensions. The Greeks would lose their respect for the authority which the Powers are attempting to exercise in order to induce them to abandon their claims. The example of the Prince of Bulgaria would lead them to persist in their attitude, and to count upon tolerance and impunity. The Emperor could not be a party to such a policy, nor assume the responsibility of its adoption. His Majesty is resolved not to depart from the decisions already taken by the European Powers and the Porte, and to sign the Protocol as agreed upon, if the other Governments deem it advisable so to proceed. || I remarked, that as regards the dignity of the Powers, on which stress was laid in the first telegram he had read to me, I had one observation to offer, namely, that had the Powers, on first hearing of Prince Alexander's protest, proceeded to sign, as they had agreed to do, without His Higness' consent, the dignity of Europe would have been maintained; but, in my opinion, after an interval of ten days, in which various propositions had been put forward, the situation was no longer identical. I added that, as regards the proposition of signing without the Prince, the Porte had hitherto shown itself extremely averse to any such idea.

Nr. 8989. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Constatirt, dass ausser Russland auch Deutschland und Oesterreich an dem Protokoll trotz des Widerspruchs des Fürsten Alexander festhalten. [B. 395.]

Berlin, March 25, 1886.

Nr. 8989. England. 25. März 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, in which your Lordship states that, Count Corti had informed you that all the Powers except Russia have accepted the Italian proposition, I have the honour to report that, in fact, neither the German nor Austrian Government have accepted it. Count Bismarck has informed the Italian Ambassador at this Court, that he cannot depart from the Protocol, to the signature of which all the Powers had given their adherence. He, however, suggested to his Excellency, that the Government of Italy might address itself directly to that of Russia, and endeavour to persuade it to consent to the Italian proposition. || I have, &c.

Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 8990. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Aus. an den Botschafter in St. Petersburg. — Englands Stellung zu dem Protest des Fürsten Alexander und Russlands Abweisung desselben. [B. 398.]

Foreign Office, March 26, 1886.

Nr. 8990. England. 26. März 1886.

Sir, || The Russian Ambassador called on me to-day. He communicated to me a telegram from his Government to the following effect:— || The Russian Ambassador at Constantinople reports, that the Grand Vizier agrees with the views of the Russian Government on the necessity of disregarding the objections raised by Prince Alexander to the proposed terms of His Highness' appointment to the Government of Eastern Roumelia. The Grand Vizier, however, fears the adoption of some rash course at Sophia and asks for collective pressure there. M. de Nélidoff has been instructed to come to an agreement with his colleagues to induce the Porte to remain firm. Rash action on the part of the Prince would, in the opinion of the Russian Government, be less unfortunate than that the dignity of the Sultan and of Europe should be impaired. M. de Giers adds, that it would be desirable that the Representatives of the Powers at Sophia and Constantinople should be instructed to use identic language in this sense. || M. de Staal asked me if I was disposed to join the other Powers in making identical representations at Sophia, and to give instructions tho the British Representative at Constantinople to *passer outre* together with the other Powers, and sign the Protocol without taking further notice of Prince Alexander's protest.

I replied, that the position was one of some complexity, because the pro-

position before the Powers now was the Italian one, originally suggested by Russia, and always advocated by me. Under these circumstances, it would be impossible for me to withdraw my adhesion to it unless I discovered that there was some insuperable obstacle to its adoption. I did not understand, that Russia had given any formal refusal to entertain it. We had, as a matter of fact, conditional assents to it from other Governments, and not one definite negative. How, then, could I abandon a solution which I believed to be the right one, and which had been formally proposed by Italy to the Powers, when it was not absolutely negatived by any of them? It was, under the circumstances, extremely difficult for me to abandon the settlement which it offered, and to send further instructions to Constantinople or to Sophia. || In the course of the evening M. de Staal communicated to me a further telegram from M. de Giers to the effect, that he had informed the Italian Ambassador at St. Petersburgh that the Emperor considered it dangerous and contrary to the dignity of Europe to withdraw a decision taken by all the Powers for the sole reason that Prince Alexander would not submit to it. His Majesty could not, therefore, assent to Count Robilant's proposition. The Russian Government recognized the spirit of conciliation shown in making the proposal, but, nevertheless, regretted that it had been officially communicated to the Porte, as the European concert might thereby be weakened. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 8990. England. 26. März 1886.

Nr. 8991. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — England schliesst sich dem Vorschlage Russlands an. [B. 401.]

Foreign Office, March 27, 1886.

Sir, || In view of the formal refusal of the Russian Government to agree to the Italian proposal, which is understood to have been consequently withdrawn, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to accept the Agreement for the future government of Eastern Roumelia in the modified form last proposed by the Porte. || I have accordingly to inform your Excellency, that Sir W. White is authorized to sign the Agreement in that form, if the Representatives of the other Powers are willing to do so. || Her Majesty's Government have assented to this course in the interest of peace, and in order to maintain the concert of Europe; but they reserve to themselves the right, at the end of the first period of five years, to propose the appointment of Prince Alexander in such terms as may appear to them at that time to be most advisable in the interest of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia. || I am, &c. Rosebery.

Nr. 8991. England. 27. März 1886.

Nr. 8992. BULGARIEN. — Fürst Alexander an den Gross-Vezier über seine Weigerung. — [Nach der Mittheilung des englischen Vertreters in Sophia vom 1. April, B. 428.]

Nr. 8992. Bulgarien. 1. April 1886.

J'ai reçu le télégramme de votre Altesse. J'espère que le Gouvernement Impérial voudra bien me reconnaître que le but de tous mes voeux, et que la tendance de tous mes efforts visaient exclusivement de garantir au peuple Bulgare un succès dans ses aspirations légitimes en concordance avec les immenses sacrifices qu'il a porté à sa cause, et de maintenir en même temps et de respecter la souveraineté seule légale, c'est-à-dire celle de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan. Je ne puis et je ne prêterai pas la main au rétablissement de la souveraineté internationale en Roumélie-Orientale, qui était la principale cause du Gouvernement sans force, sans volonté, non respecté et par conséquent même nuisible aux intérêts du peuple. En maintenant l'arrangement Turco-Bulgare du 1er Février, et en refusant mon consentement à l'arrangement Turco-Européen (si on ne prends pas en considération ma demande concernant ma nomination), je remplis un devoir sacré envers mon peuple et je crois défendre l'intérêt du Souverain. J'ai si souvent constaté et exprimé mes sentiments de dévouement envers la Cour Suzeraine, que j'aime à croire que Sa Majesté Impériale daignera apprécier mon refus inaltérable par les mêmes sentiments qui me dictent de le faire.

Nr. 8993. FRANKREICH. Min. des Auswärt. an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Auftrag, noch einmal in den Fürsten zu dringen, dass er nachgebe. [G. 551.]

Paris, le 1er avril 1886.

Nr. 8993. Frankreich. 1. April 1886.

L'ensemble des nouvelles que je reçois me fait envisager avec une vive appréhension la persistance du refus du Prince Alexandre. Je suis convaincu que des Conseillers mal inspirés lui dissimulent l'état réel de l'Europe et l'imminence des dangers qui l'entourent. Faites auprès de lui une dernière et pressante tentative que justifie, indépendamment de notre intérêt sincère pour sa personne, notre souci de la paix européenne gravement compromise par la situation actuelle.

Je vous autorise en outre, comme je vous l'ai déjà dit, à participer à toute démarche collective qui serait faite dans le même but.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 8994. FRANKREICH. — Geschäftsträger in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Ueber die Vorbereitung der Conferenz und die rumelische Zoll-Angelegenheit. [G. 560.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 4 avril 1886.

Nr. 8994. Frankreich. 4. April 1886.

C'est après-demain qu'aura lieu la séance de la Conférence qui sera précédée d'une réunion des Plénipotentiaires dans laquelle seront fixés définitivement les termes du Protocole. J'avais cru devoir attendre jusqu'ici pour parler de nouveau de la déclaration que vous m'aviez donné l'instruction d'introduire, au sujet de la liberté de transit, par la Turquie, des marchandises destinées à la Roumélie, après qu'elles ont payé le droit de 8 % *ad valorem*. || Selon ce que m'avait dit M. de Radowitz, j'espérais qu'au dernier moment, pour ne pas provoquer un retard, on accepterait l'idée d'une déclaration insérée au procès-verbal. En effet, les Ministres ottomans, ainsi que les divers représentants des Puissances m'ont paru disposés à ne soulever aucune objection. Mais M. de Nélidow m'en a fait ce soir de très sérieuses. Il m'a dit tout d'abord que cette question lui paraissait ne devoir être discutée qu'au cours de la future réunion de la Conférence, alors qu'il s'agirait de sanctionner la revision du statut organique. || Il a ajouté que, si nous faisions une telle déclaration, il croirait devoir réserver l'avis de son Gouvernement, ce qui pourrait engager une discussion qu'il fallait avant tout éviter; mais le principal argument dont il s'est servi, c'est que la Conférence qui doit se réunir après-demain ne traite que des questions politiques sur lesquelles l'accord a déjà été difficile à établir; qu'il faut craindre d'embrouiller le règlement définitif de ces questions par des propositions d'un autre ordre, et dont la discussion trouvera mieux sa place dans d'autres séances de la Conférence. Il m'a dit encore que, si le Gouvernement français fait une déclaration relative aux modifications à apporter au Statut organique, il croirait devoir en faire d'autres à son tour; le Gouvernement anglais, a-t-il ajouté, avait manifesté l'intention de faire, lui aussi, des réserves sur un certain point de l'Arrangement. Le Cabinet de la Reine, sur les observations qui lui ont été présentées, a renoncé à cette idée. Le Sultan a également renoncé à une idée analogue qui lui était venue. Il y aurait grand avantage à ce que la France ne donnât pas maintenant le signal de nouvelles observations qui certainement en feraient naître d'autres, et qui, par là, iraient d'une façon bien regrettable à l'encontre du but que tout le monde se propose; c'est-à-dire d'aboutir, en une seule séance, qui ne sera plus retardée, à l'accord des Puissances et par suite au dénouement de la crise.

Cet avis m'a été donné par M. de Nélidow à titre personnel. Mais il m'a dit que si j'insistais, il télégraphierait à Saint-Pétersbourg, ce qui serait

Nr. 8994. Frankreich. 4. Apr. 1886.

l'objet d'un nouveau retard. Tout en me tenant très ferme sur mes instructions, j'ai consenti à chercher avec M. de Nélidow, à titre purement personnel, une combinaison qui permettrait de ne pas retarder la réunion de la Conférence, tout en nous donnant satisfaction. Peut-être pourrions-nous nous contenter de la combinaison suivante. Je dirais demain au cours de la réunion des Ambassadeurs que j'ai reçu l'instruction de faire la déclaration dont il s'agit; et, si l'on me faisait quelques objections, j'ajouterais que, pour ne pas retarder la réunion de la Conférence et ne pas engager de discussion au cours d'une séance dont tous les détails sont réglés à l'avance, et, d'autre part, en considération du désir unanime d'arriver à une prompte solution, le Gouvernement de la République se contenterait de faire les réserves les plus formelles à ce sujet au cours de la présente réunion et que je priais chacun des Représentants de vouloir bien en informer son Gouvernement; j'ajouterais que la France se proposerait de présenter et de soutenir ces mêmes idées au cours des séances qui seront consacrées ultérieurement à la revision du Statut organique. || Tous les Représentants accepteraient, j'en suis sûr, une pareille observation; ils en prendraient acte, et nous obtiendrions ainsi le résultat désiré, sans encourir le reproche de retarder la solution de la crise. Je pourrais, dès le jour de la Conférence, notifier au Gouvernement turc la réserve faite dans la réunion des Plénipotentiaires.

Si vous considérez cette combinaison comme satisfaisante, je vous serais reconnaissant de vouloir bien d'urgence me le faire savoir. La réunion des Ambassadeurs a lieu dimanche, à 5 heures; mais, s'il est nécessaire, nous aurons une autre réunion lundi avant la Conférence, c'est-à-dire à 2 heures. Actuellement tous les détails de la séance, sauf celui-là, sont réglés.

Hanotaux.

Nr. 8995. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht, dass das Protokoll über das bulgarische Abkommen gezeichnet sei. [B. 437.]

(Telegramme.) Constantinople, April 5, 1886.

Nr. 8995. England. 5. Apr. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report that, at a meeting of the Representatives of the Powers at Constantinople which took place to-day, the modified Turco-Bulgarian arrangement was signed, and the Conference adjourned.

All my colleagues and myself are sending a telegram to the Ministers and Agents of our respective Governments at Athens and at Sophia, to the effect that the Conference has just confirmed the modified arrangement relative to the affairs of Eastern Roumelia, and that we (the Representatives of the Powers) trust that the Governments of His Majesty and of His Highness will not hesitate to adhere to the unanimous wish of the Great Powers. || We

added, for the special benefit of the Greek Government, the following words, "in favour of the preservation of peace." || I have &c.

Nr. 8985. England. 5. Apr. 1886.

Edwd. Thornton.

Nr. 8996. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Ueber die Feststellung des bulgarischen Arrangements und die französische und englische Declaration. [B. 445.]

(Extract.) Constantinople, April 5, 1886.

Nr. 8996. England. 5. Apr. 1886.

My Austrian colleague invited my German and Russian colleagues, the Italian Minister and the French Chargé d'Affaires, to meet at his house yesterday evening for the purpose of taking into consideration the text of the modified Turco-Bulgarian arrangement, and of the Protocol which is to convey the acceptance by the Powers of that arrangement, and of coming to an agreement as to the precise proceedings which should take place to-day at the meeting of the Conference which has been convoked by the Porte, with a view to preventing as far as possible any discussion from arising during the Conference itself. I hope, that our efforts will not fail in their object. || Sir William White will, in compliance with the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, attend the meeting as Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, and will subsequently report to your Lordship the result of its proceedings. || The French Chargé d'Affaires, at the meeting this evening at Baron Calice's house, made the Declaration of which I have the honour to inclose a copy. No observations were made respecting it; but my colleagues took a copy of it with the intention of transmitting it to their Governments. || I had received no notice of this intention, but it struck me that it would be a good opportunity of communicating to my colleagues the reservation which your Lordship had transmitted to me with regard to the reappointment of the Prince at the end of the first term of five years. || I have the honour to inclose the words more or less, in which I expressed this reservation, which my colleagues stated that they would forward to their respective Governments.

French Declaration.

Par Ordre de mon Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de déclarer qu'en donnant son adhésion au texte de l'arrangement, le Gouvernement de la République entend que la situation faite actuellement au commerce dans ses rapports avec la Roumélie ne sera nullement atteinte et que, quel que soit le régime douanier à établir, il n'entraînera aucune aggravation des taxes auxquelles sont actuellement soumis les produits Français importés en Roumélie par la voie de la Turquie.

Sir E. Thornton's Reservation.

Nr. 8996. England. 5. April 1886.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique se réserve le droit à la fin du premier terme de cinq ans de proposer la nomination de nouveau du Prince Alexandre dans les termes qui pourraient alors convenir aux intérêts de la Bulgarie et de la Roumélie-Orientale.

Nr. 8997. TÜRKEI, OESTERREICH-UNGARN, DEUTSCHLAND, RUSSLAND, GROSSBRITANNIEN, ITALIEN, FRANKREICH. — Protokoll der Botschafter-Conferenz über Ost-Rumelien. [B. 446.]

Nr. 8997. Türkei. Oesterreich-Ungarn. Deutschland. Russland. Grossbritannien. Italien. Frankreich. 5. April 1886.

Séance du 5 Avril, 1886.

Étaient présents: || Pour la Turquie— Saïd-Pacha, et Server-Pacha. || Pour l'Autriche-Hongrie— Le Baron Calice. || Pour l'Allemagne— M. de Radowitz. Pour la Russie— M. de Nélidow. || Pour la Grande-Bretagne— Sir William White. Pour l'Italie— Le Baron Galvagna, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire d'Italie. || Pour la France— M. G. Hanotaux, Chargé d'Affaires de France. || La séance est ouverte à 3 heures.

Le Président prend la parole en ces termes:— — — — —

"Vous connaissez, Messieurs, l'objet de notre réunion d'aujourd'hui. Dans l'intervalle qui s'est écoulé depuis la dernière séance, des pourparlers, au courant desquels vous avez été tenus, ont été engagés au sujet des affaires de la Roumélie-Orientale, et nous sommes arrivés, d'un commun accord, à la rédaction d'un arrangement dont lecture va vous être donné." || Lecture ayant été faite du texte de l'arrangement, les Plénipotentiaires des Puissances y adhèrent successivement au nom de leurs Gouvernements respectifs. || *Son Excellence Saïd-Pacha* constate l'accord unanime de MM. les Plénipotentiaires, et propose de le consigner dans un acte qui sera signé et annexé au Protocole. || Séance tenante, cet acte est rédigé et signé. — — — — —

La séance est levée à 4 heures, et *le Président* déclare la Conférence ajournée.

Certifié conforme à l'original: Naoum.

Annexe au Protocol No. 8.

Les Puissances sont d'accord pour accepter, dès à présent, les dispositions de l'arrangement concernant les affaires de la Roumélie-Orientale, telles qu'elles sont formulées ci-dessous, et consentent à ce qu'elles soient immédiatement promulguées sous cette forme et mises en vigueur.

Nr. 8997. Türkei. Oesterreich-Ungarn. Deutschland. Russland. Grossbritannien. Italien. Frankreich. 5. April 1886.

"1. Le Gouvernement Général de la Roumélie-Orientale sera confié au Prince de Bulgarie, conformément à l'Article XVII du Traité de Berlin.

"2. Tant que l'administration de la Roumélie-Orientale et celle de la Principauté de Bulgarie resteront entre les mains d'une seule et même personne, les villages Musulmans du canton de Kirdjali, ainsi que les villages Musulmans sis dans la région du Rhodope et restés jusqu'ici en dehors de l'administration de la Roumélie-Orientale, seront séparés de cette province et administrés directement par le Gouvernement Impérial et ce, au lieu et place du droit de la Sublime Porte stipulé dans le premier alinéa de l'Article XV du Traité de Berlin. La délimitation de ce canton et des villages en question sera faite par les soins d'une Commission Technique nommée par la Sublime Porte et le Prince de Bulgarie. Elle sera applicable sur le terrain, et il y sera tenu naturellement compte des conditions stratégiques nécessaires, au mieux des intérêts du Gouvernement Impérial.

"3. En vue d'assurer perpétuellement l'ordre et la tranquillité en Roumélie-Orientale ainsi que la prospérité de tous les sujets de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan habitant cette province, une Commission nommée par la Sublime Porte et par le Prince de Bulgarie sera chargée d'en examiner le Statut Organique et de le modifier selon les exigences de la situation et les besoins locaux. Tous les intérêts du Trésor Impérial Ottoman seront également pris en considération.

"Cette Commission achèvera dans un délai de quatre mois ses travaux qui devront être soumis à la sanction de la Conférence à Constantinople. Jusqu'à ce que ces modifications soient sanctionnées, le soin d'administrer la province suivant les formes exigées par les circonstances actuelles sera confié à la sagesse et à la fidélité du Prince.

"4. Toutes les autres dispositions du Traité de Berlin relatives à la Principauté de Bulgarie et à la Roumélie-Orientale sont et demeurent maintenues et exécutoires."

Les Puissances donneront aussi leur sanction formelle à cet acte dans une Conférence qui devra se réunir à Constantinople lorsqu'elles seront à même de sanctionner le Statut révisé de la Roumélie-Orientale.

Fait et signé à Constantinople le 5e jour du mois d'Avril de l'an 1886, au Kiosque Impérial de Top-Khané.

Saïd.	Server.
Calice.	Radowitz.
Nélidow.	W. A. White.
Galvagna.	Gabriel Hanotaux.

Nr. 8998. **ALLE GROSSMÄCHTE.** — Die Geschäftsträger der 6 Grossmächte in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. Tsanow. — Aufforderung sich dem Konferenzbeschlusse der Botschafter in Konstantinopel anzuschliessen. [B.*) 1; Gr. 85.]

Nr. 8998. Grossmächte. 10. Apr. 1886.

Les Soussignés, Représentants Diplomatiques à Sophia de la Grande-Bretagne, de l'Autriche-Hongrie, de la France, de l'Italie, de l'Allemagne, et de la Russie ont l'honneur d'informer M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères Princier, que les Ambassadeurs des Grandes Puissances à Constantinople leur a adressé à la date du 24 Mars (5 Avril) dernier le télégramme suivant: || "La Conférence vient de confirmer l'arrangement relatif à l'affaire de la Roumélie-Orientale. Nous espérons qu'en vue de cette solution le Gouvernement Princier ne tardera pas à se rallier aux voeux unanimes de l'Europe." || Les Soussignés profitent, &c.

Sophia, le 29 Mars (10 Avril), 1886.

F. Lascelles. B. de Biegeleben.
M. Flesch. A. Gerbaix de Sonnaz.
von Saldern. O. Bogdanoff.

Nr. 8999. **BULGARIEN.** — Fürst Alexander an den Grossvezier. — Stimmt den Konstantinopler Konferenzbeschlüssen unter Vorbehalt zu. [B. 2; Gr. 86.]

(Télégraphique.) Le 30 Mars (11 Avril), 1886.

Nr. 8999. Bulgarien. 11. Apr. 1886.

J'ai reçu le télégramme par lequel votre Altesse a bien voulu me transmettre l'acte concernant les affaires de la Roumelie-Orientale, qui a été signé à Constantinople le 5 de ce mois par les Plénipotentiaires des Puissances Signataires du Traité de Berlin. || Tout en maintenant sur les dispositions de l'Article 1er de cet arrangement mes réserves connues à votre Altesse, je m'empresse de lui déclarer que, en présence de la décision unanime des Puissances, je suis prêt, en m'inclinant devant cet acte international, à nommer sans délai des Délégués pour les différentes Commissions, prévues par cet arrangement.

Nr. 9000. **BULGARIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Geschäftsträger der Grossmächte in Sophia. — Antwort auf die Note der Grossmächte. [B. 2; Gr. 86.]

(Circulaire.) Sophia, le 31 Mars (12 Avril), 1886.

Nr. 9000. Bulgarien. 12. Apr. 1886.

M. l'Agent, || en réponse à la note collective que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser le 29 Mars (10 Avril), j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance

*) Von hier an ist das englische Blaubuch Turkey No. 1 (1887) benutzt.

que le Gouvernement Princier prend acte de cette communication, et je m'empresse en même temps de vous transmettre ci-joint copie du télégramme d'hier de Son Altesse le Prince à son Altesse le Grand Vizir. || Je profite, &c. Nr. 9000. Bulgarien. 11. April 1886.

Tsanow.

Nr. 9001. ENGLAND. — Geschäftsträger in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Ueber Russlands Vorgehen in Sophia. [B. 4.]

Sophia, April 12, 1886.

My Lord, || In an interview I had this morning with M. Tsanow, his Excellency read to me a note which he had received from the Acting Russian Consul-General. In this note M. Bogdanoff states, that he had joined the Representatives of the other Powers in signing the collective note of the 10th instant before he had received instructions to do so, and that he had since been instructed by his Government to call the serious attention of the Bulgarian Government to the urgency of submitting to the decisions of the Great Powers. || M. Karaveloff, whom I met afterwards, told me, that he was very glad that M. Bogdanoff had written this note, as it would furnish a conclusive reply to those persons who were attempting to make it believed that Russia was in favour of a more complete union, and had only been prevented from obtaining it by the Prince's acceptance of a less satisfactory arrangement. Nr. 9001. England. 12. Apr. 1886.

I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9002. TÜRKEI. — Kaiserlicher Firman über die Ernennung des Fürsten Alexander zum Generalgouverneur von Ostrumelien. April 20. [B. 6; Gr. 96.]

(Traduction.)

(*Après les titres d'usage.*)

Conformément aux Stipulations du traité de Berlin et à l'arrangement relatif à la province de la Roumélie orientale, convenu et confirmé par les plénipotentiaires des puissances signataires dudit traité, réunis en conférence dans notre capitale, et communiqué à Votre Altesse par notre grand vézirat, il a été décidé de confier à Votre intelligence et à Votre fidélité le gouvernement général de cette province. Cette décision ayant été soumise à Notre sanction impériale, il Nous a plu, dans Notre faveur souveraine et Notre confiance de plus en plus grande à Votre égard, de rendre, ce sixième jour du mois de Redjeb de l'an 1303, une ordonnance, en vertu de laquelle l'administration de la province de la Roumélie orientale est confiée à Votre mérite Nr. 9002. Türkei. 20. Apr. 1886.

Nr. 9002. Türkei. 20. April 1886.

et à Vos capacités. En conséquence, Notre présent firman, Vous conférant ces fonctions, a été délivré par Notre divan impérial.

Dès lors, Votre Altesse aura soin, avec l'intelligence et le dévouement qui La caractérisent, de bien administrer cette province, selon Nos intentions magnanimes, et de déployer tous ses efforts, suivant Notre plus cher désir, pour assurer l'ordre et la tranquillité dans la Roumélie orientale, ainsi que le bien-être et le bonheur de toute la population sans distinction, pour mettre à exécution l'arrangement précité et pour s'attirer ainsi de plus en plus Notre haute bienveillance impériale.

Anhang.

Bulgarisch-Ostrumelische Zollgrenze.*)

Nr. 9003. **FRANKREICH.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter in Konstantinopel und Sophia. — Protest gegen die an der ostrumelischen Grenze errichtete Zolllinie. [G. 1.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 2 Mars 1886.

L'établissement d'une ligne de douane sur la frontière turco-rouméliote est absolument contraire à l'article 196 du Statut organique de la Roumélie orientale. Or, ce Statut, élaboré par la Commission européenne que les Puissances ont instituée en exécution de l'article 18 du Traité de Berlin, ne peut être modifié qu'avec leur assentiment. || Nous ne reconnaissons pas la validité de la mesure dont il s'agit. Veuillez le faire savoir à la Porte et réclamer le rétablissement immédiat de la libre circulation des marchandises entre la Roumélie orientale et les autres provinces de l'Empire ottoman. Vous ajouterez que notre adhésion à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare reste subordonnée à la satisfaction que nous réclamons. || Vous voudrez bien informer vos Collègues et leur demander s'ils ne jugeraient pas à propos de faire la même démarche auprès de la Porte. C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9003. Frankreich. 2. März 1886.

Nr. 9004. **FRANKREICH.** — Generalkonsul in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Karavelow erklärt, dass die Angelegenheit ganz von der Türkei abhänge. [G. 4.]

(Télégramme.) Sofia, le 3 mars 1886.

En félicitant le Président du Conseil à l'occasion de la paix, j'ai de nouveau insisté pour que le Gouvernement bulgare s'occupât activement de la

Nr. 9004. Frankreich. 3. März 1886.

*) Die Stücke sind entnommen aus dem Anhang zu dem Bd. 46 S. 287 genannten Gelbbuche, betitelt: Affaire de la douane turco-rouméliote, und in den Ueberschriften mit G. bezeichnet.

Nr. 9004. Frankreich. 3. März 1886.

suppression du droit de douane à la frontière turco-roumélíote. || M. Karavelow m'a encore déclaré que la Bulgarie ferait tout son possible pour nous donner satisfaction, mais que la question dépendait surtout de Constantinople. || Aussitôt que je pourrai parler librement au Président du Conseil, je lui communiquerai d'une manière plus complète le sens des instructions de Votre Excellence.

Flesch.

Nr. 9005. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Ansicht Kalnokys. [G. 5.]

(Télégramme.) Vienne, le 3 mars 1886.

Nr. 9005. Frankreich. 3. März 1886.

J'ai parlé au Comte Kalnoky de la question de l'établissement d'une ligne de douane entre la Turquie et la Roumélie orientale. Je lui ai indiqué les objections très vives que cette mesure soulève de la part du Gouvernement de la République et qui s'appuient sur le texte même du Traité de Berlin.

Le Comte Kalnoky m'a répondu qu'il partageait entièrement votre manière de voir, que l'Allemagne et l'Autriche, dont les relations commerciales avec la Roumélie orientale et même Sofia s'effectuaient à peu près exclusivement par le Danube, la mer Noire et Constantinople, avaient dans cette question un intérêt analogue aux nôtres, et que les Représentants de l'Autriche-Hongrie en Turquie et en Bulgarie avaient déjà reçu ordre de demander la suppression de la mesure dont il s'agit. || En présence du désir exprimé par Votre Excellence, il m'a promis de leur prescrire sans retard une démarche plus pressante encore.

Le Ministre a ajouté qu'il ne doutait pas que le Gouvernement ottoman ne revînt sur la décision prise, et que la liberté de circulation des marchandises entre la Turquie et la Roumélie orientale ne fût promptement rétablie. Se plaçant à ce point de vue, le Ministre m'a fait observer qu'il considérerait comme regrettable de subordonner la sanction provisoire que tous les Cabinets étaient dès maintenant d'accord en principe à accorder à la Convention turco-bulgare et qu'il était d'un intérêt européen de ne point retarder, à la question relative à la ligne de douanes, qui, dans son opinion, ne pouvait amener l'opposition de la Porte. Il importe, selon lui, de ne pas lier les deux questions, et il espère que Votre Excellence voudra bien ne pas les faire dépendre l'une de l'autre.

Montmarin.

Nr. 9006. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Wien. — Frankreich ist ausserstande, das türkisch-bulgarische Abkommen auch nur provisorisch anzuerkennen, ehe nicht die Zolllinie aufgehoben ist. [G. 7.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 4 mars 1886.

Nr. 9006. Frankreich. 4. März 1886.

D'après votre télégramme d'hier, le Comte Kalnoky apprécie comme nous ce qu'a de contraire aux Traités l'établissement d'une ligne de douane sur la frontière turco-rouméliote. Je m'en félicite et j'espère que les représentations des Puissances à Constantinople produiront rapidement leur effet; je le souhaite d'autant plus qu'il m'est impossible, pour mon compte, d'accepter, même à titre provisoire, l'Arrangement turco-bulgare avant que la liberté de circulation des marchandises entre la Turquie et la Roumélie ait été rétablie. Je crois, comme le Comte Kalnoky, qu'il ne faut pas mêler les deux questions; mais l'opinion publique en France comprendrait difficilement que je n'insistasse pas pour donner la priorité à celle qui compromet le plus directement nos intérêts. Si la question de la ligne de douanes était rattachée à celle du remaniement du Statut organique de la Roumélie, c'est alors qu'il y aurait une confusion fâcheuse et nous serions exposés, au point de vue du règlement final, à des lenteurs dont je ne veux pas accepter la responsabilité.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9007. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in London an den Min. des Ausw. — Ansicht Roseberys über die rumelische Zollfrage. [G. 10.]

(Télégramme.) Londres, le 5 mars 1886.

Nr. 9007. Frankreich. 5. März 1886.

Hier, j'avais prévenu Lord Rosebery que je viendrais aujourd'hui chercher sa réponse au sujet des droits que le Prince Alexandre voulait imposer à la frontière de Roumélie. Aujourd'hui, il m'a dit que, selon lui, le Prince avait dépassé ses pouvoirs en cette circonstance, qu'il avait agi *ultra vires*, le Statut organique de la Roumélie étant catégorique sur la question des droits de douane. Il a reconnu, avec moi, que les intérêts des négociants français et anglais à Constantinople étaient identiques en cette matière, et il a déclaré que, pour sa part, il était aussi peu disposé que nous à reconnaître cette prétention du Prince. Il ne croit pas, néanmoins, que, dans les circonstances actuelles et au milieu des difficultés de toute espèce qui entourent la question des Balkans, il y ait lieu de refuser son assentiment à la Convention turco-bulgare comme vous comptez le faire. Il est d'avis que la question des droits de douane est distincte de la Convention et doit être formellement réservée

Nr. 9007. Frankreich. 5. März 1886. pour le moment où aura lieu la revision du Statut organique*). Finalement il m'a chargé de vous dire qu'il allait préparer incessamment une Note ou une protestation qu'il nous communiquera avec l'espoir que les deux Gouvernements pourront l'adopter.

Waddington.

Nr. 9008. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Konstantinopel. — Frankreich macht endgültig seinen Beitritt zum türkisch-bulgarischen Abkommen von der Aufhebung der Zolllinie abhängig. [G. 11.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 5. mars 1886.

Nr. 9008. Frankreich. 5. März 1886. J'ai fait savoir au premier Secrétaire de l'Ambassade d'Autriche et au Général Menabrea**) que je subordonnais toute acceptation, même provisoire, de l'Arrangement turco-bulgare au rétablissement de la liberté commerciale entre la Roumélie orientale et la Turquie. Je ne saurais admettre que le règlement de la question de la ligne des douanes, établie à l'encontre du Traité de Berlin et du Statut organique de la Roumélie, fût remis au moment où ce Statut sera revisé. Je vous confirme donc les instructions que je vous ai données et je vous prie de nouveau de vous entendre avec ceux de vos Collègues qui voudront agir dans le même sens, pour demander avec insistance que la ligne de douanes qui est l'objet de nos légitimes et énergiques protestations soit supprimée.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9009. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Zustimmung der übrigen Mächte zu dem französischen Proteste gegen die Zolllinie. [G. 12.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 5 mars 1886.

Nr. 9009. Frankreich. 5. März 1886. Les Ambassadeurs d'Italie, d'Angleterre, d'Autriche et d'Allemagne sont opposés à l'établissement de la ligne de douanes sur la frontière rouméliote. Il a été entendu que M. de Radowitz et le Baron Calice appuieraient la démarche que j'ai faite hier auprès du Grand-Vizir et de M. Tzanow. Mais ils n'ont pas l'instruction de subordonner au succès de ces démarches leur adhésion à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare.

Hanotaux.

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*) Ganz in dem nämlichen Sinne äusserten sich auch Graf Robilant und die deutsche Regierung. [G. 13 und 14.]

**) Italienischer Botschafter in Paris.

Nr. 9010. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Konstantinopel. — Forderungen Frankreichs. [G. 15.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 6 mars 1886.

Nr. 9010. Frankreich. 6. März 1886.

J'ai adressé à nos Représentants auprès des grandes Puissances, au sujet de la question douanière en Roumélie, le télégramme dont vous trouverez le texte ci-après. Vous voudrez bien entretenir les Gouvernements ottoman et princier des mesures dont nous serions disposés à nous contenter, et vous vous attacherez à leur faire comprendre l'intérêt qu'ils auraient à nous donner prompte satisfaction.

Paris, le 6 mars 1886, à Berlin, à Londres, à Saint-Pétersbourg, à Rome et à Vienne.

Nous sommes tout disposés à ne pas subordonner notre adhésion à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare au règlement définitif du régime douanier à l'entrée de la Roumélie. Mais nous tenons à ce que notre commerce n'ait pas à souffrir, pendant toute la durée de la revision du Statut organique, des conséquences du régime provisoire qui vient d'être établi, sans l'assentiment préalable des Puissances signataires du Traité de Berlin. || Nous demandons ou bien la suppression provisoire immédiate de la nouvelle ligne de douanes, ou bien l'engagement par la Porte d'organiser un régime de transit pour les marchandises à destination de la Roumélie, et, en attendant la mise en pratique de ce régime, la faculté pour nos marchandises de pénétrer dans cette province. Un délai minimum de six mois devrait en outre être fixé pour la libre importation en Roumélie des produits français qui se trouvent actuellement emmagasinés sur le territoire de la Turquie. || Je ne doute pas que ces conditions si équitables et si modérées ne soient considérées par le Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité comme une preuve de notre désir de ne point retarder la solution des questions pendantes.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9011. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Bulgarien hat die rumelische Zolllinie aufgehoben. [G. 17.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 7 mars 1886.

[Nr. 9011. Frankreich. 7. März 1886.

Un télégramme de M. Flesch m'apprend que des ordres ont été donnés pour la suppression de la ligne de douanes sur la frontière de Roumélie. Je reçois en même temps un mot de M. Tzanow me prévenant „que le Gouvernement de Son Altesse le Prince de Bulgarie prendra, sur ce qui concerne la frontière douanière, des dispositions conformes aux stipulations du Traité de Berlin."

Hanotaux.

Nr. 9012. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Konstantinopel. Gestattet ihm, an der Konferenz unter Vorbehalt theilzunehmen. [G. 20.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 9 mars 1886.

Nr. 9012. Frankreich. 9. März 1886.

M. Flesch m'informe que des ordres ont été envoyés de Sofia pour la suppression de la douane installée sur la frontière turco-rouméliote et pour le rétablissement de la ligne de douane à la frontière bulgaro-rouméliote. || Il résulte de ces dispositions que les marchandises peuvent circuler de nouveau librement entre la Roumélie orientale et les autres provinces de l'Empire ottoman. C'était le but des démarches que nous poursuivions depuis le commencement de ce mois. Je vous autorise donc à prendre part à la Conférence concernant l'arrangement turco-bulgare, étant bien entendu que la ligne douanière de la Roumélie ne sera pas rétablie jusqu'au règlement définitif par les Puissances du régime de cette province.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9013. FRANKREICH. — Generalkonsul in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über Zollverhandlungen zwischen Bulgarien und der Türkei, Herstellung der Zolllinie an der bulgarischen Grenze und Schritte der Mächte dagegen. [G. 22.]

Sofia, le 9 mars 1886.

Nr. 9013. Frankreich. 9. März 1886.

Monsieur le Président du Conseil, || Je n'ai pas manqué de me conformer aux recommandations contenues dans le télégramme de Votre Excellence du 6, et qui ne m'est parvenu que le 7 seulement. || Mais, en communiquant au Président du Conseil de Bulgarie la substance de ces instructions, je n'ai pas manqué d'attirer son attention sur l'extrême modération de nos demandes et de lui faire remarquer, en outre, que l'esprit conciliant manifesté par le Gouvernement Princier devait être considéré comme ayant surtout déterminé le Gouvernement de la République à ne plus subordonner son adhésion à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare au règlement définitif du régime douanier sur la frontière rouméliote.

M. Karavelow assure que le Gouvernement de Son Altesse va s'occuper activement d'introduire, de concert avec la Porte, un transit régulier entre la Turquie, d'un côté, et la Bulgarie ainsi que la Roumélie, d'autre part. || On ne connaît pas encore les conditions précises dans lesquelles ce transit sera installé; mais les détails accessoires ne sauraient présenter de sérieuses difficultés, du moment que le principe aura été admis. || Pour le moment, la ligne de douane établie à la frontière turco-rouméliote a été supprimée, ainsi que

j'ai eu l'honneur d'en informer Votre Excellence. Mais en même temps, la douane a été rétablie à la frontière bulgaro-rouméliote où l'on recommence à faire payer le droit de 8 p. % aux marchandises importées par la voie de la Turquie et de la Roumélie, et qui ont déjà été soumises au droit de 8 p. % à leur entrée dans l'Empire ottoman. || L'intérêt bien entendu de notre commerce semble donc réclamer l'organisation définitive d'un régime de transit qui fasse disparaître cette distinction entre la Roumélie et la Bulgarie, et qui affranchira, d'une manière uniforme, les marchandises débarquées en Turquie à destination soit de la Bulgarie, soit de la Roumélie, d'un double droit absolument contraire à l'esprit et à la lettre de l'article 8 du Traité de Berlin. || L'espèce d'engagement moral résultant des déclarations qui ont été faites en 1884, tant à M. le Marquis de Noailles par la Sublime-Porte, qu'à notre Consulat général à Sofia par le Gouvernement Princier, semblerait être de nature à écarter toute difficulté relativement au règlement de la question dont il s'agit, d'autant plus que l'autonomie de la Roumélie ne saurait être invoquée aujourd'hui par la Bulgarie comme un obstacle à l'établissement du transit. || Tous mes Collègues, à l'exception du Représentant de la Russie, ont fait des démarches afin de décider le Gouvernement Princier à supprimer provisoirement la ligne de douane établie à la frontière rouméliote et à s'occuper d'introduire sérieusement le transit entre la Turquie et la Bulgarie ainsi que la Roumélie, qui seraient considérées désormais comme formant un seul État. || Veuillez agréer, etc.

Flesch.

Nr. 9013. Frankreich. 9. März 1886.

Nr. 9014. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Paris. — Erklärt die Zolllinie für aufgehoben bis zur Revision des organischen Statuts. [G. 23.]

(Télégramme.) Constantinople, le 10 mars 1886.

Vous pouvez assurer M. de Freycinet que le cordon douanier restera supprimé jusqu'à la revision du Statut organique de la Roumélie*).

Hanotaux.

Nr. 9014. Türkei. 10. März 1886.

Nr. 9015. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den französischen Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Anzeige über den Schluss der Zollhäuser an der türkisch-rumelischen Grenze. [G. 36.]

Sofia, 3/15 mars 1886.

En réponse à votre lettre du 11 de ce mois, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire part que les bureaux de douane à la frontière turco-rouméliote sont fermés,

Nr. 9015. Bulgarien. 3./15. März 1886.

*) Der Wortlaut dieser Depesche wurde vom türkischen Minister des Auswärtigen und den Vertretern Frankreichs und Bulgariens gemeinsam festgestellt. [G. 23.]

Nr. 9015. Bulgarien. 3/15. März 1886.

en attendant la revision du Statut organique impliquant le règlement définitif des questions de finances et de douane. Karavelow.

Nr. 9016. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Schlägt eine in der Konferenz zu verlesende französische Erklärung über die Zollfrage vor. [G. 28.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 17 mars 1886.

Nr. 9016. Frankreich. 17. März 1886.

Il avait été entendu entre les Représentants des Puissances que le Protocole de la séance unique serait réglé d'avance, de façon qu'aucun incident ne la prolongeât; j'ai cru, en conséquence, devoir entretenir quelques-uns des Ambassadeurs, et notamment M. de Radowitz, de la réserve que vos instructions télégraphiques du 15 courant*) me prescrivent de faire. On m'a fait observer qu'il y avait quelque inconvénient à ouvrir la porte aux revendications de chacune des Puissances, en ce qui concerne la nature des futures modifications à apporter au Statut organique. Si, en effet, il s'agit de donner dès aujourd'hui une sanction définitive, cette sanction ne porte évidemment que sur la partie politique de l'Arrangement, c'est-à-dire sur le fait que le Gouvernement de la Roumélie est confié au Prince de Bulgarie. Toutes les modifications subséquentes, qui peuvent se produire dans la situation réciproque de la Bulgarie, de la Roumélie et de l'Empire ottoman, seront à leur tour soumises à la sanction des Puissances. Puisqu'il est entendu que les choses resteront en l'état, au point de vue douanier, jusqu'à l'Arrangement définitif, les intérêts du commerce de Constantinople et des Puissances méditerranéennes paraissent suffisamment protégés. J'ai cru reconnaître, au cours de ces observations, que les autres Puissances craignaient, en laissant introduire la réserve réclamée par Votre Excellence, de prendre immédiatement position sur cette question de douane. Peut-être me serait-il plus facile de notifier les intentions du Gouvernement de la République sous la forme d'une Déclaration que je lirais en séance. Hanotaux.

Nr. 9017. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Konstantinopel. — Instruction. [G. 29.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 17 mars 1886.

Nr. 9017. Frankreich. 17. März 1886.

Je vous autorise à substituer, comme vous me le proposez, une Déclaration dont vous donneriez lecture en Conférence à la réserve dont je vous avais prescrit de réclamer l'insertion au Protocole. Mais notre adhésion définitive

*) Freycinet hatte Hanotaux angewiesen, für den Fall, dass die Konferenz eine definitive Billigung des türkisch-bulgarischen Abkommens ausspräche, einen Vorbehalt in das Protokoll zu bringen, dass keine Erhöhung der Eingangszölle für französische Waaren nach Rumelien bei der Neuordnung des Zollwesens eintrete. [G. 521.]

à l'Arrangement turco-bulgare ne doit impliquer aucun abandon des intérêts de notre commerce, dans ses rapports avec la Roumélie; il me paraît essentiel que, d'une manière ou d'une autre, cela soit bien constaté. Nr. 9017. Frankreich. 17. März 1886.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9018. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Protest gegen die türkischen Teskerehs für die nach Rumelien bestimmten Waaren. [G. 32.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 22 mars 1886.

Un engagement formel a été pris vis-à-vis de nous, qu'une liberté complète de circulation serait rétablie entre la Roumélie orientale et les autres provinces de l'Empire ottoman. Nous ne saurions donc admettre que le Gouvernement bulgare exige que les marchandises expédiées à travers la Turquie, à destination de la Roumélie, soient accompagnées d'un teskéré turc*); on ne s'explique pas le motif qui justifierait cette formalité absolument nouvelle. Veuillez adresser à ce sujet une représentation énergique au Gouvernement princier, à qui vous ne dissimulerez pas notre étonnement d'une mesure qui semblerait impliquer que la ligne de douane turco-rouméliote n'a pas été réellement supprimée**). Nr. 9018. Frankreich. 22. März 1886.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9019. FRANKREICH. — Generalkonsul in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Tsanow erklärt die Teskerehs nicht für eine Beschränkung der Handelsfreiheit. [G. 34.]

(Télégramme.) Sofia, le 23 mars 1886.

J'ai demandé, par écrit au Gouvernement bulgare et verbalement au Ministre des Affaires étrangères, d'affranchir immédiatement de la formalité du teskéré, à l'entrée de la Roumélie, les marchandises expédiées par la Turquie. M. Tzanow, qui a repris ses fonctions, m'a promis de s'entendre avec le Président du Conseil pour le règlement de cette difficulté; mais il prétend que le teskéré n'empêche pas la liberté de circulation et ajoute que cette mesure est destinée à constater l'importance exacte des provenances étrangères. Nr. 9019. Frankreich. 23. März 1886.

Flesch.

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*) Der Erlass des Präfekten von Philippopel über die Zollfreiheit der über Konstantinopel und Dedeagatsch nach Südbulgarien eingeführten Waaren gestattet diese nur: "lorsqu'elles seront accompagnées de teskérés constatant qu'elles ont acquitté les droits de douane en Turquie, ainsi que cela se pratiquait avant le 6/18 septembre 1885." [G. 31.]

**) Dieselben Vorstellungen wurden in Konstantinopel erhoben. [G. 33.]

Nr. 9020. FRANKREICH. — Generalkonsul in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Vorschlag, die Forderung unbedingter Abschaffung der Teskerehs fallen zu lassen.

Sofia, le 30 mars 1886.

Nr. 9020. Frankreich. 30. März 1886.

En raison de la gravité de la situation et des préoccupations qui absorbent actuellement le Cabinet de Sofia, à propos de l'Arrangement turco-bulgare, il est peu probable que la difficulté concernant les teskérés puisse recevoir une solution immédiate. Au surplus on pourrait se contenter, à la rigueur, de veiller à ce que la formalité des teskérés n'entraînât ni frais, ni entraves pour notre commerce. Le Gouvernement bulgare assure, du reste, que cette mesure a été uniquement introduite dans le but de préparer l'établissement du transit entre la Bulgarie-Roumélie et la Turquie, en constatant, d'une façon positive, la valeur réelle des provenances étrangères qui pénètrent en Roumélie par la voie de la Turquie. || Veuillez agréer, etc.

Flesch.

Nr. 9021. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Protest der Pforte in Sophia gegen die Teskerehs. [G. 38.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 13 avril 1886.

Nr. 9021. Frankreich. 13. April 1886.

Le Gouvernement ottoman a tenu compte des représentations que je lui ai adressées, relativement à la formalité du teskéré que le Gouvernement bulgare exige pour toute marchandise pénétrant en Roumélie par voie de terre, et il a invité Gadban-Effendi à protester énergiquement contre cette formalité.

Montholon.

Nr. 9022. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den französischen Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Erklärung über den Zweck der Teskerehs. [G. 42.]

Sofia, le 3/15 avril 1886.

Nr. 9022. Bulgarien. 3./15. April 1886.

Monsieur l'Agent, || En réponse à la communication que vous avez bien voulu me faire le 23 mars dernier, concernant la présentation des teskérés de douane ottomans en Roumélie, et après avoir pris, à ce sujet, l'avis de mon Collègue des Finances, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que cette mesure a pour but de faire connaître la provenance des marchandises importées dans la Province, et de mettre à même l'administration locale de savoir si ces marchandises sont destinées à être consommées en Roumélie, ou bien à être importées en Bulgarie. Or, comme entre ces deux pays il n'existe pas de

ligne douanière, depuis le 6/18 septembre dernier, la formalité, en question, fournit le moyen de faire acquitter les droits d'importation pour les marchandises destinées à la Principauté et d'empêcher également l'introduction, en contrebande, des produits qui n'ont pas payé la douane ou qui constituent un monopole, dans la Province ou dans la Principauté. || D'ailleurs, vous n'êtes pas sans connaître, Monsieur l'Agent, le fait que, lorsqu'une marchandise, débarquée à Constantinople et ayant acquitté les droits de douane, est retirée des entrepôts de la douane ou des commerçants pour être de nouveau embarquée soit en gros, soit en détail, à destination du port de Bourgas, par exemple, les négociants se pourvoient toujours et forcément d'un teskéré prouvant que les droits d'importation en ont été déjà payés. || Par conséquent, nous avons cru et nous estimons que cette formalité reçue et pratiquée par le commerce de Constantinople, pour ce qui concerne les marchandises transportées par voie de mer, peut être également acceptée et mise en pratique, pour celles dirigées vers la Roumélie orientale, par voie de terre, sans constituer davantage un obstacle à la libre circulation. || Nous avons donc le ferme espoir que, grâce à vos obligeantes démarches, le Gouvernement de la République française voudra bien accueillir favorablement les considérations qui précèdent. || Je saisis, etc. Tzanow.

Nr. 9022. Bulgarien. 3./15. April 1886.

Nr. 9023. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Konstantinopel. — Zieht die Forderung vollständiger Abschaffung der Teskerehs zurück. [G. 39.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 20 avril 1886.

La suppression complète de la formalité des teskérés sur la frontière turco-rouméliote rencontre à Sofia des difficultés inattendues. Du moment où les Gouvernements Anglais et Italien ne paraissent pas vouloir intervenir activement dans cette question, je considère que, dans l'intérêt de notre commerce qui exige une solution immédiate, nous devons nous borner à réclamer l'exécution de la condition sous laquelle nous avions consenti en dernier lieu, à participer à la Conférence concernant l'Arrangement turco-bulgare. || Conformément aux instructions que j'ai adressées le 24 mars à M. Hanotaux, je vous invite donc à insister énergiquement auprès de la Porte pour que les teskérés soient délivrés en Turquie *sans retard et sans frais*. || J'invite M. Flesch à agir de son côté, auprès du Gouvernement princier, pour que l'acceptation de ces teskérés ait lieu sans difficultés d'aucune sorte en Bulgarie*). C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9023. Frankreich. 20. April 1886.

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*) Dieselbe Instruction erhielt auch der Generalkonsul in Sophia. [G. 40.]

Nr. 9024. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Paris an den franz. Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über engl. Schritte in Sophia wegen der Teskerehs und Erklärung des Anschlusses an das französische Vorgehen. [G. 41.]

Paris, le 20 avril 1886.

Nr. 9024. England. 20. April 1886.

Her Majesty's Government have received a dispatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, with a report from Her Majesty's Consul at that place, on the subject of the customs barrier which has recently been established by the authorities of Eastern Roumelia on the Turkish frontier of that province. || From this report it appears, that although no import duties are now levied on goods passing that frontier into Eastern Roumelia, the custom officials insist on the production of certificates showing that duty has been paid on these goods in Turkey and declaring the amount of duty paid or the value of the articles. || The hindrance to trade caused by this formality is stated to be so great as practically to have brought the principal portion of the traffic to a standstill, and it appears to be a matter of urgent importance to procure the withdrawal of the regulation. || Her Majesty's Government have instructed their Representative at Sophia to urge, that the regulation in question may be withdrawn, and that the importation of goods across the frontier may be permitted without restriction, as was the case previous to the 18th of september, until some permanent arrangement has been come to with the Porte and sanctioned by the Powers. || I am instructed by Her Majestys Government to bring this matter to Your Excellency's notice, and at the same time to suggest for Your Excellency's consideration the advantage that would ensue if the French Representative at Sophia was to be directed to join with the British Representative in urging the Bulgarian Government to withdraw the regulation and to remove all impediments to the trade between Constantinople and Eastern Roumelia until some definite system has been agreed upon with the Powers. || I have the honour to be with the highest consideration, etc. Lyons.

Nr. 9025. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Instruktion. [G. 43.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 25 avril 1886.

Nr. 9025. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

J'estime que nous devons nous borner à maintenir, mais de la manière la plus ferme, la demande très conciliante que je vous ai invité, en dernier lieu, à renouveler auprès du Gouvernement Princier. Je ne puis, en conséquence, que me référer à nos instructions du 20 avril. || Vous insisterez pour que la formalité des teskérés n'entraîne de la part de la douane bulgare ni

retard, ni dépense, ni difficultés d'aucune sorte, pour les importateurs de marchandises françaises à la frontière turco-rouméliote. || Si, dans la pensée de ne pas compliquer les embarras de la situation, nous avons consenti à ne pas nous prévaloir de l'engagement formel qui avait été pris vis-à-vis de nous le 15 mars dernier, nous devons compter, en retour, que le Gouvernement Princier donnera, sans tarder davantage, les ordres nécessaires pour nous assurer la satisfaction à laquelle nous avons droit; il ne saurait oublier que les plaintes de nos commerçants ont pour base, en définitive, la modification qu'il a introduite, sans y être autorisé, dans le régime de libre circulation consacré par le Statut organique de la Roumélie Orientale. Nr. 9025. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

D'après une communication que je viens de recevoir de Lord Lyons, le Gouvernement britannique a invité son Représentant à Sofia à réclamer la suppression complète des tekérés sur la frontière turco-rouméliote et à s'entendre avec vous pour obtenir du Gouvernement bulgare que le libre mouvement des échanges entre Constantinople et la Roumélie Orientale ne rencontre aucune entrave. Nous ne croyons pas devoir revenir sur la concession que nous avons précédemment faite relativement aux teskérés; mais il y a évidemment tout avantage à accueillir la proposition d'action commune qui nous est adressée par le Cabinet de Londres, quelque tardive qu'elle soit. Je vous invite donc à conférer sur ce sujet avec votre collègue d'Angleterre et à lui donner connaissance de la formule de déclaration dont je vous ai indiqué les termes: s'il l'accepte, vous vous entendrez avec lui pour remettre simultanément une note identique au Gouvernement bulgare; s'il croit devoir persister dans la demande de suppression complète des teskérés, vous remettrez une note distincte, conforme à vos instructions; mais vous continuerez à rester en rapports avec votre collègue pour amener d'une manière ou d'une autre le Cabinet de Sofia à nous donner satisfaction*).

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9026. FRANKREICH. — Generalkonsul in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Vorschlag des Fürsten Alexander betr. Aufhebung der Teskerehs. [G. 46.]

(Télégramme.) Sofia, le 28 avril 1886.

Le Prince Alexandre que j'ai vu hier m'a autorisé à dire à Votre Excellence qu'il proposera à ses Ministres l'adoption de la solution suivante qui aurait l'avantage d'éviter les complications résultant des teskérés. Nr. 9026. Frankreich. 28. April 1886.

"La production des teskérés turcs ne sera plus exigée à la frontière

*) Diese Instruktion wurde auch dem Vertreter in Konstantinopel mitgetheilt und dieser angewiesen, sich über den Gegenstand mit den Vertretern Englands und Italiens ins Einvernehmen zu setzen. [G. 44.]

Nr. 9026. Frankreich. 28. April 1886.

turco-rouméliote; toutefois, les préposés de la douane bulgare y procéderaient sans frais à la constatation du nombre, de la provenance et de la valeur des marchandises importées."

Flesch.

Nr. 9027. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Stimmt dem Vorschlage des Fürsten Alexander zu, dringt auf schleunige Behebung der Handelsstockung. [G. 47.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 1er mai 1886.

Nr. 9027. Frankreich. 1. Mai 1886.

En demandant la suppression, non plus des teskérés eux-mêmes, mais de toutes difficultés dans l'accomplissement de cette formalité, nous avons consenti à ne pas nous prévaloir d'un droit strict et nous avions cru pouvoir compter en retour sur une solution immédiate de la question. Mais il est évident que la suppression complète des teskérés serait le moyen le plus sûr et le plus efficace de régler cette affaire. Aussi la combinaison suggérée par le Prince Alexandre me paraît-elle, comme à vous, excellente, et je vous autorise à agir en ce sens dans toute la mesure que vous jugerez possible. Ce que je vous recommande particulièrement, c'est d'obtenir qu'une solution satisfaisante intervienne sans plus de retard; les atermoiements apportés à l'exécution de l'engagement pris vis-à-vis de nous aggravent la situation faite au commerce s'effectuant par la frontière turco-rouméliote.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9028. FRANKREICH. — Generalkonsul in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bulgarische Zusagen; Anschluss Italiens an die französischen Schritte. [G. 50.]

(Télégramme.) Sofia, le 4 mai 1886.

Nr. 9028. Frankreich. 4. Mai 1886.

Le Gouvernement princier est disposé à prendre des mesures pour que la formalité des teskérés n'entraîne, de la part de la douane Bulgare, à la frontière turco-rouméliote, ni retard, ni frais, ni difficultés d'aucune sorte pour ceux qui importent des marchandises françaises. || L'Agent italien a reçu avant-hier l'ordre de se joindre à moi; il est également tout prêt à se contenter de la réponse officielle que le Gouvernement bulgare a le projet de faire à notre Note et qui doit m'être remise demain.

Flesch.

Nr. 9029. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Beschlüsse des türkischen Ministeriums gegen die Aufrechterhaltung der Teskerehs. [G. 51.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 4 mai 1886, 10 h. soir.

Nr. 9029. Frankreich. 4. Mai 1886.

Dimanche, le Conseil des Ministres s'est prononcé pour la suppression de la douane sur la frontière turco-rouméliote. Il n'admet aucune dérogation au Statut organique et repousse le système des teskérés. Des ordres catégoriques vont être adressés à Gabdan-Effendi qui lui permettront de réclamer avec autorité la levée de toute entrave sur les marchandises arrivant de Constantinople et de Dedeagatch à leur entrée en Roumélie.

Montholon.

Nr. 9030. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Anfrage betr. des bulgarischen Zauderns, Forderung strikten Einhaltens der gegebenen Zusicherungen. [G. 52.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 8 mai 1886.

Nr. 9030. Frankreich. 8. Mai 1886.

Avez-vous reçu la réponse officielle du Gouvernement bulgare à la dernière note que vous lui aviez remise en vue d'obtenir la suppression immédiate de toutes les difficultés auxquelles donnait lieu la production de teskérés sur la frontière turco-rouméliote et vous donne-t-elle satisfaction? Comme vous l'indiquaient mes instructions du 1er mai, nous ne saurions admettre de nouveaux atermoiements préjudiciables à notre commerce. Veuillez, au besoin, rappeler les engagements formels pris vis-à-vis de nous par le Cabinet bulgare, en lui faisant comprendre que, s'il tardait davantage à les exécuter, nous aurions, notamment lors de la revision du Statut organique, l'occasion de lui marquer le grave mécontentement qu'un semblable procédé provoquerait ici.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9031. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den franz. Generalkonsul in Sophia. — Zustimmung zu den französischen Forderungen. [G. 55.]

Nr. 9031. Bulgarien. 10. Mai 1886.

Le soussigné, Ministre des Affaires étrangères, se fait un devoir de remercier Monsieur l'Agent et Consul général de France sur sa note du 27 avril dernier, concernant la question des teskérés, et a l'honneur de lui déclarer qu'il en a saisi le Ministère princier des finances, à l'effet de prendre sans retard toutes les mesures et dispositions nécessaires pour que la production de

Nr. 9031. Bulgarien. 10. Mai 1886.

ces documents à la frontière n'entraîne, de la part de la douane bulgare, ni retard, ni dépenses, ni difficultés d'aucune sorte pour ceux qui importent des marchandises françaises. || Le soussigné donne également à Monsieur le Représentant de la République française l'assurance que, dès le retour à Sofia de Son Altesse le Prince et de M. le Ministre Président, il s'occupera de l'examen du second mode de solution proposé au lieu et place de la formalité des teskérés, actuellement en vigueur, mode dont Monsieur l'Agent et Consul général de France a bien voulu l'entretenir verbalement. || En exprimant les plus vifs remercîments du Gouvernement princier, pour le nouveau témoignage d'intérêt que le Gouvernement français vient d'accorder à la Bulgarie en cette circonstance, le soussigné profite de l'occasion pour offrir à Monsieur l'Agent et Consul général de France les assurances de sa très haute considération.

Tzanow.

Griechenland*).

Nr. 9032. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Besorgnisse Kálnokys wegen der Rüstungen der Balkanstaaten und Anregung zur Herbeiführung der Abrüstung. [B. III, 2.]

(Extract.) Vienna, January 3, 1886.

Nr. 9032. England. 3. Jan. 1886.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that at an interview I had with Count Kálnoky this afternoon, his Excellency expressed his anxiety respecting the armaments which he stated were being continued in Servia and Bulgaria, notwithstanding the armistice and the pending negotiations, and also with regard to the warlike preparations which were still being carried on in Greece. || They were not only, his Excellency added, a heavy drain on the resources of these countries, but tended to keep alive the general warlike spirit, and also entailed great sacrifices upon the Turks, who are compelled to keep a large force under arms. || Without taking the initiative in making a formal proposal, Count Kálnoky stated, that he would be very glad to join the other Powers in addressing a representation to the Governments of Belgrade, Sophia and Athens, urging them, in the interests of peace, to cease their preparations, and to replace their armies on a peace footing. His Excellency added, that he had already made this suggestion to the German and Russian Ambassadors and the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, and would do so to the French Ambassador, and if his idea should be entertained, the form and the mode of representation to be addressed might then be concerted.

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*) Die Aktenstücke sind entnommen aus dem bei der Bulgarischen Frage angeführten Gelb- und Grünbuche (in den Ueberschriften G. und Gr. bezeichnet) und aus den Greece I, II, III, IV (1886) bezeichneten Blaubüchern (in den Ueberschriften B. I, B. II, B. III, B. IV). — Es ist ferner die erste Abtheilung dieses Bandes „Bulgarische Frage" mit zu vergleichen.

Nr. 9033. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Vorschlag, auch die Türkei zur Abrüstung zu veranlassen. [B. III, 5.]

Foreign Office, January 4, 1886.

Nr. 9033. England. 4. Jan. 1886.

Sir, || I have received your Excellency's telegraphic despatch of yesterday, informing me, that Count Kálnoky would be glad to join with the other Great Powers in addressing a representation to the Cabinets of Belgrade, Sophia and Athens, urging them to replace their armies on a peace footing, and put a stop to their respective military preparations. || I instructed you to-day, by telegraph, to inquire of his Excellency whether the Austro-Hungarian Government would be disposed to make a similar suggestion to the Porte. Unless Turkey joins in the act of disarmament, it would be useless for the Powers to attempt to persuade either the Greeks or the Bulgarians to disband their forces. || I am, &c.

Salisbury.

Nr. 9034. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Erklärt Englands Bereitwilligkeit zur Herbeiführung der Abrüstung der Balkanstaaten durch die Grossmächte. [B. III, 8.]

Foreign Office, January 6, 1886.

Nr. 9034. England. 6. Jan. 1886.

Sir, || With reference to your Excellency's telegram of the 5th instant relative to the suggestion, that the Great Powers should propose a general and simultaneous disarmament to the Balkan States, I have to state that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to join the other Powers in recommending a reduction of armaments to those States. || I am &c.

Salisbury.

Nr. 9035. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Vorschläge Oesterreichs und Bedenken Englands. [B. III, 16.]

Foreign Office, January 9, 1886.

Nr. 9035. England. 9. Jan. 1886.

Sir, || The Austrian Ambassador called upon me to day to inform me, that the proposal for a collective appeal to the Balkan Powers to reduce their armaments, which had been mentioned confidentially to your Excellency by Count Kálnoky, had been officially undertaken by Russia, and that it was from Russia the propositions would come. || I informed his Excellency, that we had already consented, at the instance of Russia, to take part in this representation. We then discussed the probability of this representation meeting with success; and we agreed, that the chief difficulty would arise at Athens. || He pressed

on me, in reply, that the representation should be of the most energetic character, so as to insure a successful result. || I admitted the importance of securing such an issue; but I asked his Excellency to consider the difficulties which would attend any naval intervention. My impression, I said, was, without expressing a definitive opinion, that, if any Powers took part in any action designed to bring material pressure upon Greece, it should be done by all the Mediterranean Powers together; but I thought any such action surrounded with much difficulty. || I am, &c. Salisbury.

Nr. 9035. England. 9. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 9036. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland hat den Entwurf einer Kollektivnote an Griechenland, Serbien und Bulgarien vorgelegt. [B. III, 19.]

(Telegraphic.) Athens, January 11, 1886, 2·34 P.M.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date. || At a meeting of the Representatives held yesterday, the French Minister was still without instructions. || The Russian Minister read the draft of a collective note he had drawn up, which seems to me effective and reasonable, and to come within the purport of your Lordships instructions. The proposed note states, that, in view of the general peace, the Great Powers have agreed to invite the Greek, Servian and Bulgarian Governments to proceed to immediate and simultaneous disarmament, which the Porte will be disposed to imitate. The Greek Government is therefore requested to inform us as soon as possible what is the shortest time in which such a disarmament can take place, in order to enable our respective Governments to bring about simultaneous action of the three Balkanic States towards disarming.

Nr. 9036. England. 11. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 9037. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Türkische Besorgnisse über die Haltung Englands und Ersuchen, neue Schritte zur Herbeiführung der Abrüstung zu unternehmen. [B. III, 23.]

(Telegr. Extract.) Constantinople, January 13, 1886.

I am more and more convinced, that the attitude of the Hellenic Kingdom is the burning question at this moment, and which perplexes mostly the Sultan's mind. || Unless some means can be found to convince His Imperial Majesty, that we are earnestly desirous to employ our influence so as to prevail on Greece to disarm, we cannot hope to make him listen to even the most salutary and friendly advice in any other quarter. || The Foreign Minister spoke to me on this subject yesterday, and alluded to the reports which were reaching them, that Hellenic pretensions were encouraged by England, and that the

Nr. 9037. England. 13. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 9037. England. 13. Jan. 1886.

Greeks fully relied on their receiving ultimately our support. || This insidious accusation appears certainly an absurd one, but one sees traces of it in the Continental press. || It was only to-day I found in the "Pesther-Lloyd," an influential Hungarian paper, a telegram dated Berlin, 8th January, saying: "It is apprehended here, that England may stand behind the pretensions recently put forward by Greece."

All the Powers want peace, the Bulgarians want their union, and both these are exposed to the greatest danger if Greece continues to maintain her present attitude. || Under the impression described above, Saïd-Pasha was instructed to express to me at his official reception the day before yesterday (Monday) the wish of his Government, that England should exert her efforts to cause Greece to disarm promptly. || I told his Excellency, as I had the honour to report to your Lordship directly by telegraph, that, at a moment when all the Powers were making collectively representations at Athens, I could not imagine how it could be supposed that one single Government would assume the appearance of acting separately by initiating an independent action. || Last night, late in the evening, his Excellency came to the Embassy and renewed, in still more emphatic language, his demand for prompt and efficacious support from Her Majesty's Government with a view to obtain the disarmament of Greece, asking me for a reply as quickly as possible to this official application for assistance, and giving me to understand that, if Greece does not comply, the Sultan will consider himself fully justified to take on himself the defence of the interests of his Empire. || His Excellency promised to inform Rustem-Pasha of the language he had held to me; but, though I promised him to report it to your Lordship, I insisted, as I had done on the previous day, that, pending the collective action now going on, England could take no separate course.

Nr. 9038. **ENGLAND.** — Consul in Volo an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die griech. Rüstungen, den Zustand der Armee und das Stocken des Handels. [B. III, 56.]

Volo, January 14, 1886.

Nr. 9038. England. 14. Jan. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that during the last two months the preparations for war made by this Government have been unremitting, though the number of the actual force spread in the north of the province has not been increased since that date. The inclemency of the season, and the hardships the men have to endure in the absence of proper organisation since they were hastily thrown to the front, has acted as a deterrent. Yet the earnestness with which this Government regards future complications inevitable is manifested by the continual pouring in into this province of war material of all sorts. It is confidently asserted, that should the necessity occur the force can easily be doubled, the necessary preparations having been completed in the interval. || The force now echelonned in the various towns in

the north of the province amount, according to the best authority, to 30,000 men. The purchase of horses in Hungary has been effected, and about 1,000 have been brought to this place by Austrian Lloyd steamers chartered for the purpose. The more recent arrivals have been of field guns, and some heavy ordnance pieces for fortress defence, besides previous arrivals of many thousand cases of arms, ball-cartridges, accoutrements and other stores. Nevertheless, owing to the unusual severity of the winter, the condition of the men is not satisfactory; fever and other complaints brought on by exposure are very prevalent, and the troops are often shifted about from the more unhealthy places. The enthusiasm which first ushered in the prospect of war has also considerably diminished in this province, though perhaps it may again be stirred up by Athens on the return of spring, when present hardships will be forgotten. || In the meanwhile, the energies of the people are taken up in the uncertainty of the future, the labours of the field are considerably neglected, and there is a general depression of trade; great inconvenience is experienced, moreover, in consequence of the increased duties on imports, and the loss of from 15 to 30 per cent. on the paper currency. M. Delyanni, the Prime Minister, is expected here in a few days; he will proceed to the north and visit the different garrisons. It is also reported, that His Majesty the King will follow shortly after, and will review the troops. || I have, &c.

H. Lewis Dupuis.

Nr. 9038. England. 14. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 9039. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Athen. — Antwort auf die Kollektivnote, Ablehnung der Abrüstung. [B. III, 35.]

Athènes, le 6 (18) Janvier, 1886.

Le Soussigné, Président du Conseil et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note collective que MM. les Envoyés Extraordinaires et Ministres Plénipotentiaires d'Italie, de France, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Russie et de la Grande-Bretagne ont bien voulu lui adresser le 30 Décembre, 1885 (11 Janvier, 1886). || Les questions soulevées dans la Péninsule des Balcans par le mouvement de Philippopoli n'ayant pas encore reçu de solution satisfaisante, et les négociations pour la conclusion de la paix n'ayant pas même commencé, la Grèce ne saurait, en présence d'une semblable situation, procéder à la démobilisation et se conformer ainsi à l'invitation formulée par la note collective du 11 Janvier Au surplus, le Gouvernement Royal n'a pas manqué, dans ses Circulaires à ses Agents Diplomatiques et par tous autres moyens en son pouvoir, de développer le point de vue où il s'est placé pour envisager les complications que d'autres ont provoquées dans la Péninsule Balcanique. || Le Président du Conseil et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes a eu l'hon-

Nr. 9039. Griechenland. 18. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 9039. Griechenland. 18. Jan. 1886.

neur d'expédier un exemplaire identique de la présente note à chacun des Représentants des Grandes Puissances qui ont signé la note collective du 11 Janvier. || M. Delyanni saisit, &c.

Théodore P. Delyanni.

Nr. 9040. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. — Vorschlag an Deutschland, Griechenland den Angriff zur See zu verwehren, im Falle der Zustimmung auch die andern Mächte zu gemeinsamem Vorgehen aufzufordern. [B. III, 33.]

Foreign Office, January 18, 1886.

Nr. 9040. England. 18. Jan. 1886.

Sir, || I instructed your Excellency to-day, by telegraph, to take the earliest opportunity of calling the attention of Prince Bismarck to the armaments ordered by the Greek Government, who have apparently no intention of acceding to the summons addressed to them by the Great Powers to proceed to an immediate demobilization of their forces. || The Greek Representative at this Court has admitted to me, that the Cabinet of Athens have little hope of making head against the Ottoman forces by land. It appears, that they count on the naval strength of the country in the event of a conflict with Turkey. || The same statement has been made to me by the Turkish Ambassador. || It results from this that, if the Great Powers can prevent the outbreak of a Greek naval war, they will have prevented a war altogether, and thus have saved the Balkan Peninsula, and very possibly Europe also, from evils of the most formidable kind. || I have therefore instructed your Excellency to propose to Prince Bismarck, that the German Government should, jointly with that of Her Majesty's, intimate to the Hellenic Government that a naval attack by Greece on Turkey will not be permitted. || In the event of the German Government agreeing to this proposal, Her Majesty's Government would invite the Governments of the other Great Powers to take part in this intimation to the Cabinet of Athens. Provided, however, that the German Government be willing to join in the proposed step, Her Majesty's Government would be in favour of taking action whether the other four Powers joined in it or not. || My personal impression, however, is that the other Governments would be ready to join if asked. || Your Excellency may inform Prince Bismarck, that I have mentioned the matter in general terms, and without making any definite proposal, to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at this Court. || I am, &c.

Salisbury.

Nr. 9041. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Deutschland wird dem Vorgehen Englands sich anschliessen, auch wenn die andern Mächte nicht theilnehmen. [B. III, 34.]

(Telegram.) Berlin, January 19, 1886.

Nr. 9041. England. 19. Jan. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that, on the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, instructing me to propose to the German Government, that an intimation should be made Greece that a naval attack on Turkey would not be permitted, I lost no time in communicating its contents to Count Bismarck. || His Excellency now informs me, that Prince Bismarck is extremely pleased at your Lordship's proposal, and agrees to it entirely. The Imperial Government will, therefore, join Her Majesty's Government in the action proposed, either in concert with the other four Great Powers, or with Her Majesty's Government alone if the Powers refuse*). || I have, &c.

Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9042. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. — Französische Bedenken gegen den Vorschlag Englands. [B. III, 41.]

(Telegram.) Paris, January 21, 1886.

Nr. 9042. England. 21. Jan. 1886.

My Lord, || In obedience to the instruction conveyed to me by your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, I called M. de Freycinet's attention this afternoon to the danger of an attack by Greece upon Turkey. I pointed out, that there was no pretext to justify such an attack, and that it might involve the Balkan Peninsula and the Mediterranean and perhaps Europe generally in war; and I proceeded to observe, that while it seemed certain that the Turks would be able to defeat the Greeks by land, it appeared that the Greeks counted upon inflicting much damage on the Turks by sea. || I went on to say that, in the absence of any pretext for a declaration of war by Greece against Turkey, and in view of the injury which would be caused by such a war to the commerce of the world, Her Majesty's Government proposed to the Government of France and to the Governments of the other Great Powers, to intimate jointly to the Greek Government that a naval attack upon Turkey would not be permitted. || M. de Freycinet said that, before giving an answer to this proposal, he must ask for information from Her Majesty's Government of their views on the following

*) Am 21. melden die Botschafter Englands in Wien und Rom die Zustimmung Oesterreichs und Italiens zu den englischen Vorschlägen; der Petersburger, dass Russland auf dieser Grundlage eine neue Kollektivvorstellung an Griechenland in Vorschlag bringen werde. [B. III, 38, 39, 40.]

Nr. 9042. England. 21. Jan. 1886.

points:— || In case Greece should set the intimation at nought, what means were to be employed to support it? by whom were those means to be employed? and to what extent were they to be carried? || I urged strongly the danger of delay, and pressed for some immediate answer, but without effect.

Count Münster, the German Ambassador, told me this morning, that he had just been informed by his Government that I was to be instructed to make the proposal in question to the French Government, and that he had been, at the same time, directed to support it immediately. He proposed therefore to wait upon M. de Freycinet for the purpose directly after I should have seen his Excellency. He did so accordingly, and I learn from him that he received from M. de Freycinet exactly the same answer that I had received.

It seems, that M. de Freycinet spoke to Count Münster of bringing the proposal forward in the Council of Ministers on Saturday next, the 23rd instant, if he should obtain in time from Her Majesty's Government the information he required. || I have had the honour to forward the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph. || I have &c.

Lyons.

Nr. 9043. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland stimmt dem engl. Vorschlage zu. [B. III, 92.]

(Extract.)

St. Petersburgh, January 21, 1886.

Nr. 9043. England. 21. Jan. 1886.

I received your Lordship's telegram, bearing yesterday's date, this morning, and immediately wrote to M. de Giers to ask for an interview, at which I informed him I had an important communication to make. || I saw his Excellency at half-past 2, and read out to him the substance of the telegram, leaving in his hands a literal French translation of the principal passages. || I told his Excellency, that I had grounds for believing that Germany would approve of the plan proposed by your Lordship. || Our conversation closed by the adherence of M. de Giers to the proposal of your Lordship's telegram. He said he would at once submit it to the Emperor, with a strong recommendation, and would endeavour, if possible, to send me a definitive answer in the course of the evening*).

*) Tags zuvor hatte Herr v. Giers den Grossmächten den Vorschlag gemacht, sich gemeinsam gegen jeden Angreifer zu erklären und die Partei des Angegriffenen zu nehmen; vgl. Nr. 8923.

Nr. 9044. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Antwort auf den Vorschlag Russlands*). [B. III, 47.]

Foreign Office, January 22, 1886.

Nr. 9044. England. 22. Jan 1886.

Sir, || The Russiam Ambassador called upon me this afternoon, and read to me a telegram from M. de Giers, expressing the opinion that a more emphatic declaration was required from the Powers in support of the policy of demobilization in the Balkan Peninsula, which they had recently adopted. M. de Giers proposed, that the Powers should declare that they would pronounce themselves against any State in the Balkan Peninsula which broke the peace by an act of aggression, and that they would refuse to sanction any change of territory produced by that means. || M. de Staal asked me to adhere to this proposed declaration.

I replied, that Her Majesty's Government were entirely of one mind with that of Russia upon the importance of maintaining the peace of the Peninsula in the absence of any justification for the breach of it, and they would willingly adhere to the proposed declaration. To avoid misunderstanding I pointed out, that the antagonism threatened by the Powers against any aggressor must not be taken as necessarily in each case assuming a material form, as the situation of some of the States concerned, especially Servia, would impose upon England sacrifices disproportionate to the object that was in view. || I promised to instruct the British Representatives at Belgrade, Athens and Sophia, to take part in any such collective action as that proposed by the Russian Government. || I am, &c. Salisbury.

Nr. 9045. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. — Frankreich stimmt den Vorschlägen Englands unter Vorbehalt zu. [B. III, 52.]

(Extract.) Paris, January 23, 1886.

Nr. 9045. England. 23. Jan. 1886.

I communicated to M. de Freycinet last night the substance of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday relative to the steps to be taken in case of need to support the proposed intimation to Greece, that a naval attack upon Turkey will not be permitted. || M. de Freycinet informs me, that the French Government authorizes its Agent at Athens to join in the intimation, but reserves its liberty of judgment as to the eventual employment of coercive measures.

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*) S. denselben Nr. 8923.

Nr. 9046. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Auswärt. — Bericht über die beim griech. Ministerpräsidenten erhobenen Vorstellungen. [B. III, 88.]

(Extract.) Athens, January 23, 1886.

Nr. 9046. England. 23. Jan. 1886.

Your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date reached me this morning, and I at once called upon M. Delyanni at his private residence and stated to him the contents of the message intrusted to me. In order to leave his Excellency in no doubt as to its tenour, I left with him a paraphrase of the telegram, of which I herewith have the honour to inclose a copy. || I then told the Prime Minister, that I read your Lordship's message as a last friendly attempt to convince him of the error of his ways, to arrest him in the perilous course he was following, and to spare Greece the coercive measures which would be resorted to in the event of her Government not listening to reason. || After more conversation, in which, speaking wholly unofficially, I sought to convince him in the strongest possible terms of the suicidal folly of stetting himself deliberately against the united opinion of Europe, I asked what answer I should convey to your Lordship. He replied, that he must take the King's orders, and call together a Cabinet Council. || I then parted from him, saying that I still trusted he would of his own accord do that which he would otherwise assuredly be constrained to do.

Nr. 9047. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den englischen Gesandten in Athen. — Antwort auf die von England erhobenen Vorstellungen. [B. III, 89.]

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Athènes, le 12 (24) Janvier, 1886.

Nr. 9047. Griechenland. 24. Jan. 1886.

M. le Ministre, || Vous avez bien voulu me communiquer hier le télégramme suivant de Lord Salisbury adressé à votre Excellence, et vous m'avez exprimé le désir d'avoir une réponse: —

"Inform the Prime Minister at once, that it has been proposed to the Great Powers by England to intimate to the Hellenic Government that, in view of the entire absence of any just ground for war against the Porte on the part of Greece, and the injury that would be caused by such a war to the interests of other nations, a naval attack by Greece on Turkey should not be permitted. || The assent of most of the Powers to this collective measure has already been received, and Germany has expressed her agreement to it in the most earnest manner. || Impress upon the Prime Minister the serious danger he would incur by taking any step at variance with the policy pursued by the Great Powers."

Le Gouvernement Royal a pris en sérieuse considération cette communi-

cation; mais il croit superflu de justifier encore par cette note sa politique, ayant déjà exposé dans ses Circulaires à ses Agents Diplomatiques les motifs qui l'obligeraient de se départir de ses dispositions pacifiques dans un certain cas. || Pour ces motifs le Gouvernement Royal croit devoir décliner la responsabilité des conséquences d'un conflit éventuel. || Toutefois, le Gouvernement Royal ne croit pas devoir dissimuler qu'il considérerait toute limitation de la libre disposition de ses forces navales comme incompatible avec l'indépendance de l'État et les droits de la Couronne, en même temps que gravement préjudiciable à ses intérêts politiques. || Veuillez, &c.

Nr. 9047. Griechenland. 24. Jan. 1886.

Théodore P. Delyanni.

Nr. 9048. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den griechischen Min. des Auswärt. — Antwort auf die griechische Note. [B. III, 89.]

Athens, January 24, 1886.

M. le Ministre, || I have had the honour to receive your Excellency's note of this day, containing a reply to a message from the Marquis of Salisbury which I communicated to you yesterday, under instructions from his Lordship. || I beg to remind your Excellency that, in delivering that message, I was careful to state that I looked upon it as a last friendly warning from Her Majesty's Government, intended to open the eyes of the Hellenic Government to the dangers of a policy so entirely at variance with the views held by the Great Powers, and to spare them its possible consequences. || My communication being of an informal character, I must express some surprise at the official form of your Excellency's reply. || I shall, however, not fail to transmit it to my Government, and I avail myself, &c.

Nr. 9048. England. 24. Jan. 1886.

Horace Rumbold.

Nr. 9049. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Rom an den Min. des Ausw. — Italienische Vorbereitungen zur See; Vorschlag, die internationale Flotte nach Kreta zu senden. [B. III, 62.]

Rome, January 25, 1886.

My Lord, || Three Italian men-of-war, stationed at Gaëta, have to-day been ordered round to Taranto, there to await further instructions. The larger iron-clads now lying at Naples can be equipped for sea in a few days, if required. || Count Robilant would be glad to know the strength of the British squadron which it is proposed to send, as well as its intended destination. || His Excellency has received a telegram from Athens, reporting the

Nr. 9049. England. 25. Jan. 1886.

Nr. 9049. England. 25. Jan. 1886. departure of the Greek fleet for Crete, where strenuous efforts are being made to induce the population to rise against the Turks. || Under these circumstances, his Excellency would suggest that the combined squadrons should meet in Cretan waters. || I have, &c. J. Savile Lumley.

Nr. 9050. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Im Falle des Ablehnens der andern Mächte soll er die Note im Verein mit dem deutschen Gesandten dennoch überreichen. [B. III, 59.]

Foreign Office, January 25, 1886.

Nr. 9050. England. 25. Jan. 1886. Sir, || With reference to my telegram of to-day's date relative to the intimation to be conveyed to the Greek Government, that a naval attack on Turkey will not be permitted, I have to state that, in the event of any of the Representatives of the other Great Powers not having received similar instructions, or declining to join you on other grounds, you should consult with your German colleague on the subject. || Should he agree to act with you in the matter, the note should be presented to the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs in the name of Great Britain and Germany, and of any of the other Powers who may be willing to join. In the event of your German colleague alone agreeing to take part in the action contemplated you should still present the note, though its terms will, of course, require to be modified accordingly. || I am, &c. Salisbury.

Nr. 9051. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Deutschland wird auch ein Panzerschiff zu der internationalen Flotte senden*). [B. III, 73.]

Berlin, January 26, 1886.

Nr. 9051. England. 26. Jan. 1886. My Lord, || With reference to my immediately preceding despatch of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that I learn from Count Bismarck that the Minister of Marine objects to sending the Constantinople dispatch-boat, on the ground that its rate of speed is only five knots an hour, but he would order her to proceed to the Piraeus if Her Majesty's Government should send ships there to remain. In the meanwhile, he has issued orders to the German iron-clad the "Friedrich Carl" to leave Wilhelmshafen at once, and to steam at full speed the whole way to the Aegean Sea,

*) An demselben Tage meldet der Botschafter Englands in Wien, dass das österreichische Kreuzergeschwader in den griechischen Gewässern zur internationalen Flotte stossen soll. [B. III, 76.]

or to such other portion of the Mediterranean as may be eventually designated. Nr. 9051. England. 26. Jan. 1886. || Count Bismarck has, therefore, begged me to request your Lordship to keep him informed as to the whereabouts of Her Majesty's fleet, in order that the German iron-clad above mentioned may be enabled to join it. || I have, &c.

Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9052. ENGLAND. — Instruktion für den Befehlshaber der Flotte in der Suda-Bay. [B. III, 77.]

The Great Powers have intimated, that they will refuse to permit any naval attack by the Government of Greece on the Ottoman Empire, which will include its coasts, its possessions and its ships. Nr. 9052. England. 26. Jan. 1886.

It will be your duty to bring this intimation to the notice of the commanding officer of any Greek vessel who is acting in contravention of it, and, if he persists, to take the necessary measures for compelling him to conform to it.

It will be desirable, that you should act in concert with the officers commanding the vessels of any of the Great Powers acting under similar instructions.

Nr. 9053. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Auswärt. — Frankreich lehnt die Entsendung von Schiffen zur internationalen Flotte ab. [B. III, 79.]

Paris, January 27, 1886.

My Lord, || Your Lordship did me the honour to address to me telegrams yesterday and to-day relative to the dispatch of ships of war to support the intimation to the Greek Government, that a naval attack by Greece upon Turkey will not be permitted. || I communicated the substance of these telegrams verbally to M. de Freycinet this afternoon. He said, that, for his part, he was not disposed to send French ships of war to Greek waters for the purpose of backing up the intimation. He must confess, that he shrunk from running the risk of placing the naval forces of France in a position in which they might be called upon to fire upon Greek ships, and he felt sure that anything of this kind would be very repugnant to public feeling in France. || He conceived, that a better plan for supporting the intimation would be to make a declaration to Greece that, if she attacked Turkey by sea, the Powers would not interfere in any way to shield her from the consequences of an attack by land upon her by Turkey. || I have had the honour to forward the substance of this despatch to your Lordship by telegraph. || I have, &c. Nr. 9053. England. 27. Jan. 1886.

Lyons.

Nr. 9054. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Rom an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Instruktion des italienischen Admirals. [B. III, 80.]

Rome, January 27, 1886.

Nr. 9054. England. 27. Jan. 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of this day, I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that I have thanked the Italian Government for the cordial support given by them to Her Majesty's Government, and have communicated to them the instructions sent to the British Admiral in Cretan waters. || Precisely similar instructions were sent last night to the Italian Admiral.

The Italian squadron, consisting of three iron-clads and a dispatch-boat, is due at Augusta in Sicily to-night, where orders await it to proceed without delay to Suda Bay, which place it is expected to reach on the morning of the 31st instant. || The squadron on arriving at Suda Bay will await further orders.

Admiral Martini is instructed to act in concert with the English Admiral, and with the officers in command of vessels belonging to the other Great Powers, in order to prevent, if necessary, even by force, any attack by Greek forces on Turkish vessels of war or of commerce, the landing of troops in Crete, or any attack on the coasts of Turkey. || No naval action of a more serious nature is to be undertaken without previous communication with the Minister of Marine and the Italian Government.

Count Robilant desires to be informed as early as possible of the name of the Commander of the English fleet. || The rank of Vice-Admiral was conferred in September 1880 on Vice-Admiral Martini. || I have, &c.

J. Savile Lumley.

Nr. 9055. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Flagge Russlands wird bei der internationalen Flotte vertreten sein. [B. III, 82.]

St. Petersburgh, January 27, 1886.

Nr. 9055. England. 27. Jan. 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, I have been informed by M. de Giers, that he will at once address the Minister of Marine, with the object of securing the presence of the Russian flag in the Aegean Sea. The instructions with which it is intended to furnish the Admiral will likewise be at once submitted to the Emperor. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9056. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Das neue Ministerium wird in der griech. Frage die Politik des alten einhalten. [B. III, 102]

Foreign Office, February 8, 1886.

Sir, || The Greek Minister called upon me here to-day by appointment. || In reply to an inquiry from me, he stated, that he had received and communicated to his Government a letter which the Prime Minister, as the only Minister actually appointed of the new Government, had addressed to him on the 2nd instant. || In that letter Mr. Gladstone informed him that, he had thought it right to ascertain from the most trustworthy sources what were the engagements with respect to the peace of the East into which this country had already entered under the auspices of Her Majesty's late Government. As the result of his inquiries, he could not doubt, that Her Majesty is engaged to the Powers in the terms of the recent note, which conveyed an intimation to Greece as to the course to be pursued by the Powers in the event of an attack by Greece upon Turkey, in the absence of a just cause of war. || In making this communication, Mr. Gladstone stated, that he was far from signifying any change of views or of his good wishes for the prosperity of Greece, practical evidence of which would not be wanting should he at any time be able to give it compatibly with the interests of peace and of justice to others.

Nr. 9056. England. 8. Febr. 1886.

M. Gennadius said, that M. Delyanni had sent an answer which he thought must have already reached Mr. Gladstone. This answer contained a statement respecting the present state of affairs in Greece, which M. Gennadius repeated to me, adding that, in his opinion, no Government could exist in Greece which did not pursue the present warlike course.

I then informed M. Gennadius, that on Her Majesty's Government acceding to office they had found engagements entered into with regard to Greece from which they could not recede, and that I was bound to say I considered their fulfilment to be for the best interests of peace and of Greece herself. The instructions therefore to our fleet and to our Minister at Athens remained in force. || I was happy, however, to think, that Mr. Gladstone's letter furnished a bridge of honour for Greece, as it could be no discredit to her to yield to the advice of so old and approved a friend.

After some further conversation, in which he alluded to the provisions of the Treaty of Berlin, M. Gennadius asked me whether there were no hope of Her Majesty's Government prevailing upon Turkey to concede the remaining portion of that accession of territory which had been suggested by that instrument. || I replied, that we had only to deal with the present condition of affairs, and that in any case it would be impossible to make any application on behalf of Greece while she continued in her present armed and threatening attitude,

Nr. 9056. England. 8. Febr. 1886. and therefore on that subject I could say nothing. || M. Gennadius promised to telegraph to M. Delyanni the substance of what I had said to him. || I am, &c. Rosebery.

Nr. 9057. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen und die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Griechische Anfragen und englische Erklärung über die Stellung des Kabinets Gladstone zur griech. Frage. [B. III, 119.]

Foreign Office, February 15, 1886.

Nr. 9057. England. 15. Febr. 1886. Sir, || The Greek Minister called upon me to-day and stated, that he had an urgent communication to make. He said he had received a telegram late last night from M. Delyanni, announcing that the German Minister at Athens had called on him that afternoon, and had told him that the Cabinet of St. James' did not merely intend to follow Lord Salisbury's policy, but was considering the necessity of employing even more energetic measures; that M. Delyanni was about to enter into an explanation of the position of Greece similar to that contained in his reply to Mr. Gladstone, but that Baron von den Brincken had checked him, saying he had distinct instructions not to enter into discussion on the subject. || M. Gennadius inquired, by direction of M. Delyanni, whether the statement made by Baron von den Brincken was correct*). || I replied, that Her Majesty's Government had determined, if possible, to prevent Greece from entering into a war which, in their opinion, could have only one termination, and which, moreover, might possibly embroil Europe, and that they were no doubt considering, in concert with the other Powers, the most efficacious means for averting such a catastrophe. ||

*) Ueber den Missbrauch, welchen die griechische Regierung mit den vertraulichen Erklärungen des deutschen Gesandten getrieben hatte, brachte am 27. Februar die Norddeutsche Allgem. Ztg. folgende officiöse Note:

Durch die Politik, welche Griechenland seit dem vorigen Herbst verfolgt hat, ist es in eine schwierige Situation gerathen; seine Regierung thut aber nichts, um dieselbe zu erleichtern. || Sie hatte bei ihrer herausfordernden Haltung gegen die Türkei darauf gerechnet, dass der Kabinetswechsel in London auch einen Wechsel in der englischen Politik zur Folge haben würde. Das Berliner Kabinet hatte Herrn Delyannis darauf vertraulich mittheilen lassen, dass dies ein Irrthum wäre. Der kaiserliche Gesandte wurde beauftragt, darauf aufmerksam zu machen, dass die Hoffnungen, welche man dort auf eine weniger energische Politik Englands neuerdings setze, unbegründet erschienen: das neue englische Ministerium werde nach den uns gemachten Eröffnungen ebenso entschlossen vorgehen wie das vorige, um einen Friedensbruch seitens Griechenlands zu verhindern. || Die vorstehende Mittheilung, welche Griechenlands eigenes Interesse im Auge hatte, war Herrn Delyannis von dem kaiserlichen Gesandten mündlich und vertraulich gemacht. Trotz dieser Form der Mittheilung brachten zwei Tage darauf die beiden Zeitungen „Chronos“ und „Akropolis“ Artikel, welche ihren

I had made a communication to him a week ago to this effect, to which I had received no answer, and it was therefore necessary for the Powers to determine what step should next be taken.

M. Gennadius assured me he had not understood I required an answer, as he had deemed M. Delyanni's letter to Mr. Gladstone to be in the nature of a reply to my communication. He had telegraphed the same afternoon to Athens the substance of what I had said to him, and he was ready to telegraph now, if I desired it, to say I wished for an answer. I told him there was no necessity for this.

M. Gennadius then expressed his sense of the hardship involved by my declaration to Greece, who had not declared war; but I observed to him, that the intention of his Government to do so was no secret, that reports reached us daily of their great preparations, and that the massing of two large armies on the Greek frontier could hardly be for the purpose of a military review. || On his urging, that Bulgaria was also arming, but that she was encouraged to break Treaties, no remonstrances being addressed to her, I replied that the preparations of Bulgaria, as far as I understood them, were purely defensive in their nature; that the Great Powers, in the interests of the general peace of Europe, had declared to Servia, Bulgaria and Greece the course which they were prepared to take in order to discourage, and, if possible, prevent any fresh outbreak of hostilities, and that Her Majesty's Government must take their share of the responsibility which these declarations involved according to the means at their disposal. || I observed, that a discussion of this sort could lead to no advantage, and he then renewed the inquiry which he made at our first interview, as to whether there was no hope of Her Majesty's Government endeavouring to obtain from the Porte for Greece the remaining territory which the award of the Conference of Berlin had declared to be necessary. || I replied, that I could not accept his description of what had taken place in 1880, but, waiving that point, I repeated to him that there was no chance of our making such representations at present, nor, as I had previously told him, was there much prospect of the Porte entertaining favourably at this moment any proposition having for its effect an accession of territory to Greece.

Inhalt wiedergaben. Diese Indiskretion kann nur auf den griechischen Ministerpräsidenten zurückgeführt werden. Ausserdem hat Herr Delyannis sogleich nach dieser vertraulichen Eröffnung den griechischen Gesandten in London telegraphisch beauftragt, bei dem englischen Minister des Aeussern anzufragen, „ob die von dem deutschen Gesandten in Athen gemachte Eröffnung, dass von Seiten des englischen Kabinets event. Coercitivmaassregeln gegen Griechenland in Aussicht ständen, sich bestätige." || Seitens der englischen Regierung ist hierauf natürlich in demselben Sinne geantwortet worden, in welchem sie sich dem deutschen Kabinet gegenüber bereits ausgesprochen hatte. || Das Verfahren des griechischen Ministers ist nicht geeignet, demselben das Vertrauen anderer Mächte zu erhalten, und muss dahin führen, dass Griechenland durch seine Schuld die Sympathien anderer Kabinete verliert.

Nr. 9057. England. 15.Febr.1886.

Reverting then to the actual position of affairs, M. Gennadius gave expression to the fear, that Greece might be reproached with lack of spirit if she gave in now. || I rejoined, that my feelings of sympathy with his country were too well known for me to be charged with forming a low estimate of the Greek character, and that I could perceive no humiliation for Greece in yielding to the representations of the United Powers. || He thanked me for this expression of my sentiments, and asked me what he should report to M. Delyanni. || I told him he might inform his Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government firmly adhered to Lord Salisbury's policy in endeavouring to prevent, if possible, an outbreak of war between Turkey and Greece, and that we should take, in concert with the other Powers, such measures as we considered necessary to attain that end. || I am, &c. Rosebery.

Nr. 9058. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. d. Ausw. Erklärung Frankreichs, weshalb es keine Schiffe zu der internationalen Flotte entsende. [B. III, 122.]

(Extract.) Paris, February 17, 1886.

Nr. 9058. England. 17.Febr.1886.

I had this afternoon some conversation with M. de Freycinet about the affairs of Greece. || I observed, that the effect upon the Greek Government of the endeavours of the Powers to deter them from plunging into war with Turkey, or at all events from maintaining a threatening and disquieting attitude towards the Porte, seemed to be much weakened by misrepresentations perseveringly made, that France was not in complete accord with the rest of Europe on the subject. || M. de Freycinet answered, that he had left nothing undone to counteract any such misrepresentations. He had made energetic communications to the Greek Government, and had given the most strict instructions to the French Agents at Athens and elsewhere to affirm in word and deed the entire Agreement of the French Government with the Governments of the other Powers, and with the Government of Her Majesty in particular. It was true, that he had not sent instructions to the French fleet to join in a naval demonstration. He had, in fact, been withheld from doing so by public opinion in France. There was a great deal of susceptibility about Greece here, and if he had sent instructions to the French squadron to resort, in certain circumstances, to coercive measures, he should have gone against the general feeling, and have involved himself in difficulties with the Chambers.

Nr. 9059. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Stimmung in Griechenland. [B. III, 123.]

(Extract.) Athens, February 18, 1886.

Nr. 9059. England. 18. Febr. 1886.

Although it is most difficult to mark the fluctuations of public feeling here, the situation at present may, I think, be resumed as follows: —

A decided reaction against the policy and the acts of the Government has taken place — notably within the last few days — not only in general opinion, but even in the ranks of M. Delyanni's more immediate supporters. || The scandal caused by the recent promotions in the army has greatly contributed to this feeling. The hopes, too, raised by the contumacious attitude of Servia, and the opposition said to be offered by Russia to the Agreement between Prince Alexander and the Porte, have in a great measure vanished. To this must be added the fact, which is only now being clearly realized, that Greece cannot move by sea, while by land even the most desperate venture would at present be rendered impossible by the state of the roads, the plains of Thessaly having been converted by the heavy rains and inundations into a perfect morass. The result is a mingled sense of impotence and indignation, that is telling very seriously against the Government which has brought the country to such a pass.

Nr. 9060. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten und den Gesandten in Athen. — Besorgnisse wegen neuer Truppenaushebungen in Griechenland und Vorstellungen an die griechische Regierung. [B. III, 135.]

Foreign Office, March 8, 1886.

Nr. 9060. England. 8. März 1886.

Sir, || On seeing an announcement in the "Times" of Saturday, the 6th instant, that the Greek Ministry has determined to call out 20,000 men of the Reserves, I at once wrote to the Greek Minister asking him if there were any foundation for this statement. || I told M. Gennadius in my note, that I had telegraphed to Her Majesty's Minister at Athens, making the same inquiry, but that, pending Sir H. Rumbold's answer, I should be glad to learn from him if he had information which would enable him to contradict this report, which, if true, would gravely complicate the present situation. || The Greek Minister replied, that he had no information on the subject, but would telegraph at once to M. Delyanni. || To-day he came to me and read me a long telegram from M. Delyanni, who said that, in view of the massing of the Turkish troops upon the frontier of Greece, he had thought it necessary

Nr. 9060. England. 8. März 1886.

to propose the calling out of 20,000 men. M. Gennadius emphasized the word "propose", as if the Decree were not yet signed by the King. || I stated to the Greek Minister, that he was aware of the views expressed by the Great Powers of Europe with regard to any intention of aggression by Greece on a neighbouring and friendly Power. I recalled to him the observation he had often made to me, that it was hard, that Greece should be called upon to demobilize when both Servia and Bulgaria remained armed, and I pointed out to him that Servia and Bulgaria were now both demobilizing, and that Greece remained the only menace to the peace of the East. || Under these circumstances, I said the calling out of 20,000 men was a step of great moment. We had heard nothing of the concentration of Turkish troops alluded to by M. Delyanni; but it was not improbable, considering that Greece was now the sole opponent Turkey had to deal with, that she should move her forces to the neighbourhood where war may be apprehended from points where no such attack was to be feared. I said, therefore, that this proceeding of the Greek Ministry was one of the utmost gravity, and that, as soon as he left me, I should communicate by telegraph to the other Governments with which we were acting in concert the statement he had made respecting the proposition of the Greek Ministers. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9061. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über russische Vorstellungen in Athen und die Unnachgiebigkeit Delyannis. [B. III,144.]

(Telegraphic.) Athens, March 12, 1886, 5·30 P.M.

Nr. 9061. England. 12. März 1886.

The Russian Minister came to me this morning to ask whether I had been instructed to call the attention of the Greek Government to the danger of their sending, as it was said they were about to do, 20,000 men to the frontier. He was to act with such of his colleagues as had received similar instructions. || I told him, in reply, what your Lordship had said to M. Gennadius on the subject, an account of which was contained in your telegram of the 8th instant. || The Russian Minister then said, that he had seen the Prime Minister on Wednesday, and had warned him very seriously, and that his Excellency had told him that the increase of the Turkish forces by three divisions had made precautionary measures necessary on this side. The Prime Minister had then gone over the same old ground, and had repeated that Greece did not at all fear a contest with Turkey. The Greek forces were in a perfect condition, while the Turkish forces were disorganized. He had added, that no Government could afford to disregard the warlike excitement in Greece, which was very great. || The Russian Minister having asked him whether he was receiving encouragement from any Power, he admitted that he

was getting none. The opinion of the Russian Minister is, that he is looking for pressure from the Powers. Nr. 9061. England. 12.März1886.

Nr. 9062. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Bericht über seine Auffassung der Lage. [B. III, 145.]

(Extract.) Foreign Office, March 15, 1886.

The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador called on me to-day to inquire as to the course which Her Majesty's Government would recommend to be adopted with regard to Greece. || I said, that it was a matter of some complexity, because any step that might be taken in advance would have to be considered in all its possible bearings. Moreover, care must be exercised, that no further step should be taken which would endanger the joint action of the Powers. || The withdrawal of its ships by any one of the Powers would not only weaken the moral effect of the demonstration, but would proportionately raise the hopes of Greece. || Meanwhile, the situation was not, in my opinion, undignified. The Powers practically blockaded the Greek fleet, and paralyzed any aggressive intentions on the part of Greece. They remained faithful to their engagements, for they had not receded from any part of their declared policy. || For the present, therefore, I thought it would be best to await the effect of the signature of the Protocol at Constantinople which was to confirm the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement. Upon the conclusion of that Protocol, the Greeks would find themselves face to face by sea with the allied fleet, and by land with the whole Turkish army. If they should, nevertheless, fail to recognize the consequences of their position, the Powers would have to consider what further steps should be then taken. || Count Károlyi admitted the force of the observations I had made. Nr. 9062. England. 15.März1886.

Nr. 9063. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Französische Vermittelungsversuche auf Grundlage der Aeusserungen Trikupis. [B. III, 148.]

Athens, March 19, 1886.

My Lord, || In speaking to me yesterday of the hopeless deadlock into which affairs have got here, the French Minister observed that he believed that some small satisfaction granted to the Greeks would now suffice to content them, so heartily sick are they of their present condition. || That, I said, might well be the case, but the great difficulty was to content them by giving them something, for it could only be at the expense of the Porte, and that was not to be thought of. || M. de Moüy admitted this, but said that he was Nr. 9063. England. 19.März1886.

Nr. 9063. England. 19. März 1886.

not thinking of any territorial cession; he believed, that some arrangement by which the population of Macedonia should be benefited in accordance with the terms of the unexecuted Article XXIII of the Berlin Treaty would now suffice to satisfy Greece, by enabling her to say that all her efforts and sacrifices had not been made in vain. || I may mention here, that M. Tricoupi lately held very much the same language to a person who sees him habitually, and even declared that, if he could be certain of coming to some direct agreement with the Porte under which the latter would assure a separate administration, with, so I understood, some degree of autonomy to the purely Greek region of Macedonia within a line drawn, say, along the Kara Su to Seres, and thence across to Bitolia, he would readily at once assume the responsibilities of office. || I may add, that in the course of the purely academical conversation I had with M. de Moüy on this question, he several times remarked that he believed the Turks were just as anxious for an agreement as the Greeks, and that if left to themselves they would soon devise some solution. || I have, &c.

Horace Rumbold.

Nr. 9064. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Griechenland rüstet zum Kriege. [G. 540.]

Athènes, le 25 mars 1886.

Nr. 9064. Frankreich. 25. März 1886.

Monsieur le Président du Conseil, || Les retards que les prétentions du Prince Alexandre imposent à la conclusion du compromis turco-bulgare, l'inaction des escadres à la Sude, les bruits accrédités ici de mésintelligence entre l'Angleterre et la Russie, ont sensiblement modifié l'attitude du Cabinet grec. Il affecte de croire la guerre inévitable et poursuit ses préparatifs avec activité. || Mon télégramme d'hier a fait connaître à Votre Excellence que l'appel de deux nouvelles classes de la réserve est imminent, et c'est en vain que j'ai insisté auprès de M. Delyannis pour un ajournement indéfini de cette mesure: il m'a répondu qu'il n'y avait pour lui que deux voies à suivre, soit la démobilisation, qu'il s'obstine à repousser, soit la guerre, qu'il faut alors préparer avec les forces égales à celles de la Turquie. Il estime que pour être en mesure de lutter, la Grèce doit avoir soixante mille hommes en Thessalie et vingt-cinq mille sur les frontières d'Épire: c'est donc, en tenant compte des non-valeurs, une armée de cent mille soldats qu'il est nécessaire de pouvoir mettre en ligne d'ici un mois; et, pour atteindre ce chiffre, il est urgent d'appeler dès à présent deux classes de la réserve, peut-être deux autres plus tard. || Je n'ai pas besoin de rappeler à Votre Excellence les objections et les conseils que j'ai développés à M. Delyannis: il me suffira de dire que, pénétré de vos instructions et animé personnellement du plus sincère désir d'amener une solution pacifique que je désire autant pour la Grèce que pour la Turquie, j'ai renouvelé le ferme langage que je n'ai cessé de faire

entendre depuis six mois avec une infatigable persévérance. Dans la situation actuelle des choses, les Puissances ont le choix entre deux systèmes: ou contraindre les Grecs par la violence ou les persuader par la douceur; mais le Gouvernement hellénique ne prendra pas de lui-même, en l'absence de tout incident qui justifie à ses yeux un changement de front, l'initiative de modifier sa politique. Il la poursuit donc, il arme de plus en plus, et n'espérant aucun arrangement amiable, il s'achemine vers le moment où, pour mettre un terme à une situation qui le ruine, il sera peut-être condamné à une lutte funeste. || Quant à moi, je suis assuré de répondre pleinement aux intentions de Votre Excellence et à ses sentiments envers la Grèce, qui sont d'ailleurs entièrement les miens, en observant une attitude très réservée, et en me bornant à ne jamais négliger l'occasion de revenir, bien que ce soit peut-être monotone, sur la nécessité absolue de ne risquer aucune imprudence et de ne pas engager le pays dans une route pleine de périls. Je dois reconnaître, d'ailleurs, que si ces conseils ne satisfont pas toujours ceux auxquels je les adresse, du moins les plus belliqueux comprennent parfaitement qu'il nous sont dictés par un désir très sincère de la paix générale et par l'intérêt même que nous prenons au bien de la Grèce. || Veuillez agréer, etc.

Nr. 9064. Frankreich. 25.März1886.

C. de Moüy.

Nr. 9065. **ENGLAND.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über neue Kriegsvorbereitungen Griechenlands. [B. III, 147.]

Athens, March 26, 1886.

My Lord, || The long talked of Decree summoning two more classes of the reserves (the men born in 1858 and 1859) received the Royal signature yesterday afternoon and was promulgated to-day. The numbers called out are variously estimated at from 15,000 to 24,000 men, and may be safely put at about 20,000, a large proportion of whom have been with the colours before. || It will be very difficult to provide these new forces with the necessary complement of officers and non-commissioned officers. A Circular was addressed a day or two ago by the Minister of War to the military authorities requesting them to send in lists of all the sergeants, &c., serving at present, noting the names of those who have the necessary qualifications to be promoted to Lieutenancies. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9065. England. 26.März1886.

Horace Rumbold.

Nr. 9066. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Räth Griechenland dringend ab vom Kriege. — [G. 545; den französischen Gesandten bei den Grossmächten wird diese Depesche ebenfalls mitgetheilt G. 546.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, 29 mars 1886.

Nr. 9066. Frankreich. 29.März 1886.

Il est à désirer que la convocation de la Chambre hellénique n'ait pas la signification belliqueuse qu'on lui prête, et que le Gouvernement grec ne médite pas une agression contre la Turquie. S'il en était autrement, vous voudriez bien exprimer aux Ministres de Sa Majesté notre désapprobation formelle et leur déclarer que dans de semblables conditions ils n'auraient à compter, à aucun degré, sur l'appui moral de la France. Continuez à me tenir au courant de tous les incidents de quelque importance.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9067. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Besorgnisse und Vorstellungen wegen der Abfahrt der russischen Schiffe aus der Suda-Bay. [B. III, 153.]

Foreign Office, March 30, 1886.

Nr. 9067. England. 30.März 1886.

Sir, || Her Majesty's Government learn, that the Russian ships of war forming part of the combined squadron in Suda Bay are about to quit that anchorage for Smyrna. || In view of the assurances given to your Excellency by M. de Giers, Her Majesty's Government cannot but think that the departure of the Russian ships is due to some misunderstanding. I have to request your Excellency to lose no time in pointing out to the Russian Government what a disastrous effect the withdrawal of their ships at the present juncture is likely to have in encouraging the aggressive policy of the Greek Government, conveying as it will an impression that the concert of the Powers is not maintained. || The plan for the establishment of a blockade on the coast of Greece is in a forward state of preparation, and will be communicated, by telegraph, to your Excellency and to Her Majesty's Representatives at the other capitals as soon as it is completed, for submission to the Governments of the Great Powers. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9068. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Auswärt. — Russland will sich betr. der Flottendemonstration nicht von den Mächten trennen. [B. III, 159.]

St. Petersburgh, March 31, 1886.

Nr. 9068. England. 31. März 1886.

My Lord, || I communicated, confidentially, in a private note to M. de Giers, the substance of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date. His Excellency replied, that, according to news received from the Russian Admiral at Suda Bay, the latter had gone not to Smyrna, but to Syra. It was not intended, that he should leave Greek or Cretan waters, and so long as the Russian flag remained there, there was no reason for supposing that Russia was separating from the other Powers. || M. de Giers' note concluded with a promise to give me further information on my calling upon him on the following day. || I have &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9069. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Erneute Vorstellungen wegen der Abfahrt der russischen Schiffe. [B. III, 160.]

Foreign Office, March 31, 1886.

Nr. 9069. England. 31. März 1886.

Sir, || I have received your telegram of this day, stating that M. de Giers has written to inform you that the Russian squadron has not proceeded to Smyrna, but to Syra, and that the Russian Admiral had no intention of leaving Greek waters, and that so long as the Russian flag is in those waters, M. de Giers does not see why it should be supposed that Russia is separating herself from the other Powers. || I have to request your Excellency to represent to M. de Giers that the departure of the Russian Squadron from Suda Bay has already had a most unfortunate effect, and thrown upon Russia the heavy responsibility of giving encouragement to the Greek Government in their aggressive attitude at the very time of the meeting of the Greek Parliament. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, desire to urge earnestly on the Russian Government the expediency of giving immediate orders that the Russian ships should rejoin the combined fleet at Suda Bay. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9070. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Die russischen Schiffe sind nach der Suda-Bay zurückbeordert.

St. Petersburgh, April 1, 1886.

Nr. 9070. England. 1. April 1886.

My Lord, || On receipt, yesterday evening, of your Lordship's telegram of the 31st March, I addressed a private letter to M. de Giers, pointing out the disastrous effect likely to be produced in Greece by the departure of the Russian vessels from Suda Bay, and urging the importance of their rejoining the combined fleets. I have now the honour to report, that his Excellency has just called in person to inform me that he has moved the Minister of Marine to telegraph instructions to the Russian Admiral at once to return to Suda Bay. A notice to this effect, and explanatory of the accidental character of the cruize of the squadron to Syra, will appear in to-morrow's issue of the official "Journal de Saint-Pétersbourg"*). || I have &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9071. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Schilderung der Situation in Athen. [G. 549].

Athènes le 1er avril 1886.

Nr. 9071. Frankreich. 1. April 1886.

Monsieur le Président du Conseil, || Mes télégrammes des 27 et 28 vous ont successivement informé de l'appel des deux nouvelles classes de la réserve et de la convocation de la Chambre pour le 2 avril. || La première de ces décisions était prévue depuis longtemps: la résistance que le Roi opposait à une mesure aussi coûteuse et qui devait être sévèrement appréciée en Europe, l'espoir que le Président du Conseil conservait encore de sortir d'embarras par une combinaison diplomatique, peut-être aussi nos avis persévérants, la retardaient depuis près d'un mois. Mon dernier rapport a fait connaître à Votre Excellence les diverses considérations qui invitaient dès lors le Gouvernement grec à ne pas ajourner davantage sa décision et à accentuer son attitude. L'ordonnance royale, lorsqu'elle a paru, n'a donc causé aucune surprise, et je dois ajouter qu'elle a rencontré une approbation presque unanime dans la presse de tous les partis. || Il est clair qu'aujourd'hui la situation s'est simplifiée. Ce ne sont plus les fluctuations du Gouvernement, tantôt belliqueux, tantôt indécis, dont l'opinion publique doit se préoccuper sans savoir au juste

*) Tags darauf brachte das Journal de St.-Pétersbourg eine Berichtigung, dass der russische Admiral nach Syra, nicht nach Smyrna gegangen und nach der Suda-Bay zurückgekehrt sei; die an die Abfahrt desselben geknüpften Erörterungen seien daher grundlos gewesen. [B. III, 166.]

ce que veut le pays. Il s'agit maintenant du vote souverain de la Chambre, qui, en acceptant ou en repoussant les projets de lois du Cabinet, règlera d'ici à quelques jours la direction que suivra la Grèce. Je ne sais si les partisans de la paix auront à se féliciter du résultat. Je remarque en effet que les gens les mieux au courant des sentiments parlementaires s'abstiennent de se prononcer sur les suites de la discussion qui va s'ouvrir à la fin de cette semaine et sur les chiffres du scrutin. Mais en définitive, on est assuré qu'on sera bientôt fixé, soit sur une politique d'action plus ou moins immédiate, mais bien déterminée, soit sur une politique, sinon absolument réservée, du moins plus prudente et disposée à ajourner la crise. || Les deux programmes opposés qui vont se présenter devant la Chambre m'ont été, en quelque sorte, indiqués dans la conversation par les deux chefs des partis contraires. Si M. Delyannis a la majorité, il regardera qu'il a obtenu un bill d'indemnité et que le pays non seulement approuve ses actes passés, mais l'invite à leur donner éventuellement leur conclusion naturelle, qui est la guerre. Armé par les nouvelles ressources qui lui auront été confiées, aussi bien que par le témoignage évident de sympathie qu'il aura reçu, il continuera ses préparatifs, appellera dans peu de temps les dernières classes de la réserve; il fixe d'avance à peu près les premières semaines de mai pour entrer en campagne. Il m'a développé ses projets il y a trois jours; il me les a répétés aujourd'hui encore. || Quant à M. Tricoupi, il évite, comme le Président du Conseil, de manifester aucune opinion sur les votes futurs de la Chambre, tout en affectant cependant, d'après la session précédente, d'hésiter à croire que la majorité se soit déplacée. Ces réserves faites, il dit que sur les principes, c'est-à-dire sur les droits de la Grèce et la nécessité d'une action éventuelle, il ne diffère pas d'idée avec le Gouvernement, mais qu'il s'en sépare sur les moyens et sur la ligne de conduite à suivre. Il n'aurait peut-être pas donné dès l'origine aux préparatifs militaires un développement hors de proportion avec les ressources du pays: il n'eût rappelé en tout que deux classes de la réserve, et il eût été ainsi en mesure de concentrer plus solidement ces forces. Que si la Chambre, devant laquelle il attaquera la politique et les projets du Gouvernement, se range de son avis, et si Sa Majesté l'appelle au pouvoir, il n'accepterait que sur un témoignage de confiance absolue, et agirait alors résolument. Il ne regarderait pas comme convenable de démobiliser, ne voulant pas être taxé de faiblesse contrairement à sa pensée, et désarmer la Grèce dans l'état actuel des choses en Orient; mais il accorderait des congés dans des proportions considérables, de façon à alléger les dépenses de l'État et aussi à pouvoir rappeler au besoin les soldats dans les quarante-huit heures. L'armée qu'il conserverait ainsi serait moins nombreuse sans doute, mais compacte, solide, bien encadrée, bien approvisionnée, en mesure de supporter un premier choc. Il attendrait les circonstances sans difficulté, ayant diminué les dépenses militaires, et s'appliquerait à remettre de l'ordre dans les finances. En résumé, ce serait le système de la paix armée, et, quant à présent, une sorte de satisfaction pro-

Nr. 9071. Frankreich. 1. April 1886.

visoire donnée au vœu de l'Europe et aux légitimes inquiétudes de la Turquie. Tels sont, M. le Président du Conseil, les deux programmes entre lesquels la Chambre aura à se prononcer. || C'est pourquoi la communication que Votre Excellence m'a chargé de faire au Président du Conseil était particulièrement opportune, et j'ai cru répondre à votre pensée en m'en acquittant dès hier. Sans doute j'avais déjà, il y a quelques jours, conformément au sens général de mes instructions, exprimé à M. Delyannis le jugement sévère que Votre Excellence porterait assurément sur les intentions dont il me faisait part. Mais il était excellent de lui renouveler sur le champ, non plus comme de moi-même, mais avec l'autorité supérieure que me donnaient vos directions spéciales et récentes, l'expression de la désapprobation formelle du Gouvernement de la République pour toute velléité belliqueuse. Non pas pour dégager notre responsabilité, qui à aucun degré n'est en cause, mais pour qu'il ne pût subsister dans son esprit aucune illusion, s'il est possible qu'il en ait conservé après la série ininterrompue de nos avertissements péremptoires, il était urgent de lui redire, dans les termes mêmes que vous m'aviez indiqués, qu'il ne pouvait espérer aucune sorte d'appui moral de notre part pour l'entreprise qu'il projetait. C'est ce que j'ai fait en disant à M. Delyannis que je lui parlais en votre nom. Il m'a écouté avec toute la déférence qu'il doit à vos conseils, toute la sympathie respectueuse qu'il professe envers notre pays, et je dirai l'amitié personnelle qu'il m'a toujours témoignée. En ce moment sans doute, la perspective du vote de la Chambre domine sa pensée, et les circonstances parlent plus haut que nos remontrances; mais, dans la discussion qui va s'ouvrir, et dans les engagements qu'il pourrait prendre, il en retrouvera, j'espère, l'impression et le souvenir; j'aime à penser que nos paroles loyales et persévérantes lui inspireront une sage réserve, et que, s'il reste au pouvoir, pour peu que les événements nous viennent en aide, il sera, dans une certaine mesure au moins, prédisposé à la prudence par l'indéniable certitude de notre blâme et par la netteté de nos déclarations. || Veuillez agréer, etc.

C. d. Moüy.

Nr. 9072. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Berlin, St.-Petersburg, Wien und Rom. — Vorschläge über Ausführung der Blokade. [B. III, 167.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, April 2, 1886, 5 P.M.

Nr. 9072. England. 2. April 1886.

In case it should prove necessary to put further pressure on Greece by means of the united squadrons, the following are substantially the measures which Her Majesty's Government are disposed to recommend:—

1. The vessels of the combined squadrons to be stationed in such positions as may be found convenient, and to cruize between Cape Malea and Cape

Colonna to Doro Channel, and from Doro Channel to the northern frontier of Greece, including the entrances to the Gulf of Volo. Nr. 9072. England. 2. April 1886.

2. All vessels whatever of Greek nationality found under weigh by the ships of the combined squadrons engaged on this service, whether within territorial waters or not, to be seized and detained in such place or places as may be determined on by the Commanders of the combined squadrons.

I have to instruct you to communicate the above to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that they are submitted as proposals for consideration and would be formally suggested if they obtain the concurrence of the Powers represented in the united squadrons.

Nr. 9073. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Zustimmung Bismarcks zu dem Blokadevorschlage. [B. III, 171.]

(Extract.) Berlin, April 3, 1886.

On the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date I communicated to Count Bismarck the proposals of Her Majesty's Government with regard to further measures to be taken against Greece. || I saw his Excellency this afternoon, and he informed me that he had submitted the proposals to the Chancellor, who says that he will not refuse to take part in the course of action suggested, if it should be agreed to by the other Powers. || Count Hatzfeldt will be instructed by telegraph this afternoon to explain to your Lordship the Chancellor's views on the subject. Nr. 9073. England. 3. April 1886.

Nr. 9074. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Auswärt. — Antwort Kálnokys auf den Blokadevorschlag. [B. III, 172.]

Vienna, April 3, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that I called upon Count Kálnoky this morning, and communicated to his Excellency your Lordship's telegram of yesterday respecting the measures which Her Majesty's Government were disposed to recommend for putting further pressure on Greece by means of the combined fleet. || Count Kálnoky stated, that he was fully prepared for this communication, and would take the orders of the Emperor upon it; but he expressed his opinion, that, before proceeding to an execution, an intimation should be addressed to the Greek Government; and his Excellency asked me whether your Lordship had sent me any instructions on this subject. || I have, &c. A. Paget. Nr. 9074. England. 3. April 1886.

Nr. 9075. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Antwort Giers' auf den Blokadevorschlag. [B. III, 173.]

St. Petersburgh, April 3, 1886.

Nr. 9075. England. 3. April 1886.

My Lord, || I have communicated to M. de Giers, for his confidential information, the blockade proposals contained in your Lordship's telegram of the 2nd instant. His Excellency personally considers them quite satisfactory; and it especially pleased him to learn, that Greek ships will alone be interfered with, and that there is no question of a belligerent blockade affecting neutral Powers. M. de Giers leaves St. Petersburgh to-morrow, and immediately on reaching Livadia will submit the proposals to His Majesty the Emperor, as well as to the Minister of Marine and the Grand Duke Alexis, Head of the Admiralty, who will both be at Livadia with His Imperial Majesty. || Accordingly, when the proposals are subsequently officially communicated to M. de Giers, he will be in a position to give an immediate reply to them. || I have, &c. R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9076. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Konferenzschluss, identische Note an Bulgarien, Griechenland und Serbien mit der Anzeige der Genehmigung d. ostrumelischen Abkommens. [B. III, 181.]

Constantinople, April 5, 1886.

Nr. 9076. England. 5. April 1886.

My Lord, || Immediately after the adjournment this afternoon of de Conference, Sir W. White informed me, that before it closed it was proposed that each of the Representatives of the Powers should transmit to the Agents of his Government at Sophia and Athens the telegram of which I have the honour to inclose a copy. Sir W. White accepted it *ad referendum*; but as he entirely agreed with me that it would be advisable to forward it at once, I did not hesitate to do so, as I already had the honour to inform your Lordship by telegraph. || I have &c. Edwd. Thornton.

Inclosure.

Identic Telegram sent to Agents at Athens and Sophia.

La Conférence vient de confirmer l'arrangement relatif aux affaires de la Roumélie-Orientale; nous espérons qu'en vue de cette solution le Gouvernement Royal [Princier] ne tardera pas de se rallier au voeu unanime des Grandes Puissances— *(Pour la Grèce)* en faveur du maintien de la paix.

Nr. 9077. **ENGLAND.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Vorlagen der griechischen Regierung an die Kammer und die Stimmung in Athen. [B. III, 183.]

Athens, April 6, 1886.

Nr. 9077. England. 5. April 1886.

My Lord, || The debate which commenced on Saturday, on the vote of non-confidence in the Government practically asked for by M. Tricoupi, was carried on yesterday without its coming to a division, the Chamber adjourning over to-day on the occasion of the Festival of Greek Independence. || The measures proposed by the Government are a Bill giving them authority to borrow 25,000,000 fr. more from the National Bank in bank notes, the issue of notes of that bank to be increased to that extent, and certain Army Bills providing for the promotion of the Cadets of the officers, as well as for the promotion of non-commissioned officers within a shorter period of Military Academy and of the non-commissioned Officers' School to the rank of time than that established by law, and for the return of officers on the Retired List to active service. || The tone of the debate yesterday was decidedly warlike, and the impression is gaining ground that M. Delyanni's majority will remain faithful to him.

It is none the less believed by many persons, that, although anxious to show that he still enjoys the confidence of the Chamber, the Prime Minister is prepared to tender his resignation to the King, on the ground that he cannot undertake to carry out the national programme without being assured of the unanimous support of the country, which would not be signified by a mere majority in Parliament, be it ever so considerable. || Other persons maintain, that M. Delyanni is so wedded to office that he will endeavour to maintain himself in it at any cost, and they point in this respect to the wholesale manner in which he has lately been bestowing places and promises in order to keep his party together. No Minister in Greece has ever gone further in this respect. || On the whole, the situation remains very obscure, though matters are certainly tending to a crisis. || I have, &c.

Horace Rumbold.

Nr. 9078. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Einwände Oesterreichs und Deutschlands gegen den Blokadevorschlag. [B. III, 179.]

Foreign Office, April 9, 1886.

Nr. 9078 England. 9. April 1886.

Sir, || The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador called on me to-day to speak to me respecting the proposals made by Her Majesty's Government with regard to the blockade of the eastern coast of Greece. His Excellency said, that his Government were, on the whole, favourably impressed with them, and were

Nr. 9078. England. 9. April 1886.

prepared to support them, but that they felt some apprehension as to the application of the blockade to merchant-vessels. They feared, that there might be neutral goods in the Greek vessels seized by the blockading ships, and this would materially interfere with the trade of Austria-Hungary. || I told Count Károlyi, that the German Government had likewise objected to the application of the blockade to merchantmen, but on different grounds. They feared, that the Greek vessels would be at once registered under some other nationality, and would in that way render the blockade futile as regards merchantmen. If this apprehension proved to be well founded, neutral merchandize would, of course, be only too safe. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9079. GRIECHENLAND. — Rede des Ministerpräsidenten nach der Kammersitzung am 11. April vom Balkon seines Hauses an das Volk. [B. III, 210.]

(Translation.)

Nr. 9079. Griechenland. 11. April 1886.

Dear fellow-countrymen, || You express your satisfaction at the decision of the Chamber*); but the Chamber could not do otherwise than express the decision which they have expressed, because the Chamber is composed of representatives of the nation, who are in duty bound to struggle for its interests. || The policy which we were obliged to follow in September was not a policy imposed by us upon the nation, but it was a policy imposed by the nation upon us; we applied that policy for the last five months like soldiers who are placed as sentinels, because we are the soldiers of the nation to which we belong, from which we proceed, and by whose indication we were raised to power. We were blamed for not having fulfilled our duty; for not having sufficiently and duly worked for the military organization of the country; for having by our incapable policy caused the Great Powers to be inimical to the rights of Hellenism; for having ruined the finances of the country, those finances which we struggled so much to redress when our opponents were in power, and as a consequence of which struggles we were raised to power ourselves. The Chamber did not find, that this censure was founded, and has permitted us to continue to apply the same policy; we, therefore, will remain faithful executors of the will of the nation.

If there are any countrymen of ours who have opinions contrary to our own, you must not blame them, but you must believe that the opinions of theirs are a sincere expression of their views. You must remember, that they are Greeks themselves; and there is no Greek whose opinions and actions

*) Die Kammer hatte an demselben Tage mit 129 gegen 83 Stimmen ein Vertrauensvotum für die Regierung angenommen. [B. III, 185.]

can be such as to cause harm to the national interests. If all the Great Powers, or some of them, think that the claims of Hellenism do not now agree with the general interests of Europe, it is to be hoped that in the end they will recognize that our claims not only are not incompatible with the general interests of Europe, but that they are worthy of the protection of the Great Powers, which at other times have acknowledged that our claims were reasonable, because the claims of Greece really serve civilization in the East. It is for this reason, dear fellow-countrymen, that you must respect the Great Powers, expecting that some day our claims will be acknowledged by them as reasonable. Nr. 9079. Griechenland. 11. April 1886.

With regard to the Government of the country, you must be convinced that we who form it have only one object, namely, to serve the national interests; we shall not omit any expedient of those that can contribute to that object. We are the servants of the country, watching its interests and struggling for them. || In case the national interests should impose upon us the duty of giving up office, even then we should hold fast to our principles as the faithful servants of the interests of the nation. || I thank you, dear fellow-countrymen, for the sentiments manifested to us. I pray you go quietly home, trusting in the God of Greece and in our own forces, and to give a cheer for the nation and the King of the Hellenes.

Nr. 9080. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Aufforderung, auf wirksames Einschreiten der Mächte gegen Griechenland hinzuwirken. [G. 585; Gr. 87; B. 186.]

Nach der Ausfertigung an den Botschafter in Paris*), mitgetheilt der franz. Regierung am 18. April.

Constantinople, le 12 avril 1886.

Ma précédente dépêche vous a fait connaître la sanction par la Conférence de l'Acte concernant les affaires de la Roumélie orientale. Grâce au concours bienveillant des Puissances, cette question se trouve être à l'heure qu'il est résolue pacifiquement, et la seule question qui reste jusqu'ici en suspens et exige, à son tour, une prompte solution, est celle que constitue l'état anormal de la Grèce. || En effet, depuis ma dernière circulaire du 25 janvier qui vous signalait cet état de choses et la nécessité d'y remédier au plus tôt, la situation en Grèce n'a point changé; tout au contraire, les préparatifs militaires y ont Nr. 9080. Türkei. 12. April 1886.

*) In der Ausfertigung für die Botschafter in Rom und London sind folgende Abweichungen. Der Eingang lautet: (Télégramme) Mon télégramme du 5 de ce mois vous a fait. . . Als Schlusssatz folgt noch: Veuillez communiquer immédiatement la présente dépêche à M. le ministre des affaires étrangères et nous faire connaître la réponse de Son Excellence. Mitgetheilt der italienischen Regierung am 13. April. Anm. d. Red.

Nr. 9080. Türkei. 12. April 1886. continué et l'attitude du Gouvernement hellénique est devenue de plus en plus belliqueuse en dépit des démarches collectives des Puissances.

Nous sommes certes prêts à parer à toute éventualité qui viendrait à se produire du côté de la Grèce; mais nous n'en éprouvons pas moins le vif désir de voir le calme et la sagesse y succéder à la situation actuelle si grosse de périls pour la paix et si préjudiciable aux intérêts généraux. || D'ailleurs, l'attitude de la Grèce que rien ne justifie est d'autant plus inadmissible que déjà, sur le vœu des Puissances, le Gouvernement impérial avait eu à supporter en sa faveur un sacrifice territorial considérable. || Les Puissances ayant réuni leurs flottes non loin des eaux helléniques afin d'assurer le maintien de la paix, nous sommes dans l'attente des mesures efficaces qu'elles croiront devoir prendre pour atteindre ce but. || Aussi faisons-nous un nouvel appel à leur intervention pour amener la Grèce à désarmer sans plus de retard.

Saïd-Pascha.

Nr. 9081. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Instruktion. [B. 187.]

Nr. 9081. England. 12. April 1886. (Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, April 12, 1886, 4 P. M.

It is possible, that the vote of yesterday in Greek Chambers may lead to some hot-headed action. It is extremely desirable, therefore, that the Turkish Government should take the greatest care that their forces shall not at this juncture be the aggressors in the first instance.

Nr. 9082. ALLE GROSSMÄCHTE. — Die Vertreter in Athen theilen der griechischen Regierung die Beschlüsse der Constantinopler Conferenz mit. [Gr. 88; B. III, 214.]

Nr. 9082. Grossmächte. 13. April 1886. Les représentants des grandes puissances à Constantinople, réunis en conférence, ayant confirmé l'arrangement relatif aux affaires de la Roumélie orientale, et exprimé en même temps l'espoir qu'en vue de cette solution le gouvernement hellénique ne tardera pas à se rallier aux voeux unanimes de l'Europe en faveur du maintien de la paix, les soussignés, envoyés extraordinaires et ministres plénipotentiaires d'Italie, de France, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Russie et de la Grande-Bretagne ont été chargés par leurs gouvernements respectifs d'en informer le cabinet d'Athènes. || Les soussignés saisissent, etc.

Athènes, le 13 avril 1886.

Curtopassi — Moüy — von Brincken — Trauttenberg — Bützow — H. Rumbold.

Nr. 9083. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Bismarck erwartet neue Vorschläge, ist aber auch bereit die alten anzunehmen. [B. III, 190.]

Berlin, April 13, 1886.

Nr. 9083. England. 13. April 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that at an interview which I had to-day with Count Bismarck his Excellency said that he was now awaiting definite proposals from your Lordship as to the further measures which it might be deemed necessary to adopt with regard to Greece. I remarked to his Excellency, that proposals had been put forward by your Lordship which had apparently not met with the entire approval of Prince Bismarck. Count Bismarck replied, that the comments which had been made in reply to your Lordship's proposals had been accompanied by an assurance that the Imperial Government would take part in the measures which had been suggested by your Lordship if they were undertaken, that is, if they were agreed to by the other Powers. || Count Bismarck, in conclusion, begged me to explain to your Lordship that now that the Turco-Bulgarian question was settled he hoped to receive a further communication from your Lordship with regard to Greece. || I have, &c. Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9084. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Athen. — Antwort auf die Collectivnote vom 13. April. [G. 584; Gr. 90; B. III, 198.]

Athènes, le 4/16 avril 1886.

Nr. 9084. Griechenland. 16. April 1886.

Le Président du Conseil, Ministre des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la Note collective que les Envoyés extraordinaires et Ministres plénipotentiaires d'Italie, de France, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Russie et de la Grande-Bretagne ont bien voulu lui adresser le 13 avril 1886.

Le Gouvernement royal, animé du désir de se conformer aux voeux des grandes Puissances, pénétré du sentiment que le Pays a tout intérêt au maintien de la paix, n'a rien fait jusqu'ici de nature à troubler la paix générale ou à entraver les efforts de l'Europe en vue de pacifier la Péninsule balkanique. || Si le Gouvernement royal ne peut renoncer au désir d'obtenir pour le Royaume les frontières indiquées par la Conférence de Berlin, frontières que les grandes Puissances lui ont elles-mêmes attribuées, c'est que non seulement il est obligé de se conformer à la volonté nationale, mais qu'il est, en outre, convaincu que l'obtention des susdites frontières pourrait être considérée comme rétablissant l'équilibre déja compromis entre les diverses races de la presqu'île des Balkans et consoliderait en même temps la paix dans ces contrées.

Nr. 9084. Griechenland. 16. April 1886.

Le Président du Conseil, Ministre des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a eu l'honneur d'expédier un exemplaire identique de la présente Note à chacun des Représentants des grandes Puissances qui ont signé la Note collective du 13 avril. || M. Delyannis saisit cette occasion pour renouveler à MM. les Envoyés extraordinaires et Ministres plénipotentiaires d'Italie, de France, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de Russie et de la Grande-Bretagne les assurances de sa haute considération.

Nr. 9085. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Lage in Athen. [B. III, 192.

(Telegraphic.) Athens, April 16, 1886, 6·15 A.M.

Nr. 9085. England. 16. April 1886.

The Government had another large majority yesterday on the Bill for a loan of 25,000,000 fr. || The Chamber will probably break up on Saturday. They will have confirmed the Prime Minister in his policy of armed preparation, and furnished him with sufficient money and men to carry it on for some months longer, to the utter ruin of the country. On this point I may mention, that M. Tricoupi shares my opinion. || I fear, therefore, that Her Majesty's Government must be prepared to resort to some measures of coercion if an end is to be put to this state of things, and a not improbable collision on the frontier prevented. || I still believe, that such measures of coercion, or at least an imperative summons from the Powers, is what the Prime Minister desires, and I do not see how this course can now be avoided.

Nr. 9086. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Ansicht Kálnokys über einen neuen Schritt der Grossmächte gegen Griechenland. [B. III, 203.]

Vienna, April 16, 1886.

Nr. 9086. England. 16. April 1886.

My Lord, || Count Kálnoky, in an interview I had with him yesterday, informed me he had received the last Turkish Circular, in which the Powers are earnestly appealed to procure the immediate disarmament of Greece, and that he had stated to the Turkish Ambassador that, in his opinion, some further steps ought certainly to be taken to obtain this result, and that there would doubtless be an exchange of views between the Powers as to the steps to be taken. || With regard to the part of the Circular which urges more efficacious measures on the part of the combined fleets, Count Kálnoky said, that he had pointed out to the Turkish Ambassador that the Turkish Government had no reason for complaint on this score, for that the presence of the fleets in Greek waters had entirely fulfilled the purpose for which they had been assembled, viz., the prevention of an attack by sea on Turkey. || From the tenour of Count Kálnock's subsequent observations I derived the impression,

that his Excellency is looking with some anxiety for any fresh proposals which Her Majesty's Government may be disposed to make with the view of bringing about the submission of Greece to the pacific requirement of Europe. || I have, &c. A. Paget. Nr. 9086. England. 16. April 1886.

Nr. 9087. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Wien, St.-Petersburg, Paris, Rom und den Vertreter in Constantinopel. — Uebersendet ein Promemoria über die griechische Angelegenheit und den Entwurf einer Collectivnote an Griechenland. [B. III, 199.]
Ausfertigung für den Botschafter in Wien.

Foreign Office, April 17, 1886.

Sir, || I transmit to your Excellency herewith a copy of a Memorandum which I have this day communicated to the Ambassadors of the Great Powers at this Court, containing the proposals of Her Majesty's Government as to the course which should be pursued towards Greece, with the view of inducing the Government of that country to put the Hellenic army on a peace footing. || A draft of the collective note to be presented by the Representatives of the Great Powers at Athens is also inclosed. || You are authorized to communicate these papers in strict confidence to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, if he has not already received them, and to ask for his opinion upon them*). || I am, &c. Rosebery. Nr. 9087. England. 17. April 1886.

Inclosure 1.

Pro-memoriâ.

The Turco-Bulgarian question having happily been brought to a close by the united action of the Great Powers, the only remaining menace to the peace of Europe is the hostile attitude of Greece towards the Porte. || The Hellenic Government have continued their military preparations in spite of solemn and repeated warnings, and all conciliatory means of inducing them to place their armaments on a peace footing have been exhausted. || In these circumstances,

*) In der Ausfertigung für den Botschafter in Paris lautet statt dessen der Schlusssatz:

"Your Excellency is authorized to communicate these papers in strict confidence to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of France may be disposed to join in the proposed steps, at least so far as regards the presentation of the collective note, and the withdrawal of their Minister in the event of no satisfactory reply being received to it."

In der für den Vertreter in Constantinopel:

"Copies of these papers have also been communicated to Rustem-Pasha, and your Excellency is authorized to show them in strict confidence to the Grand Vizier and Minister for Foreign Affairs."

Nr. 9087. England. 17. April 1886.

Her Majesty's Government consider, that the time has arrived when the Powers are called upon, in the interests of peace, to adopt measures calculated to put a stop to the state of tension created by the refusal of Greece to conform to the wishes of Europe.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, desire to submit to the Powers, for their consideration, the following course of action for the attainment of the object in view:—

Her Majesty's Government would, in the first place, propose, that a collective note be presented to the Hellenic Government by the Representatives of the Powers at Athens in the terms of the draft annexed hereto, calling upon Greece to reduce her army to a peace footing without delay, and to give an assurance within a week that orders to that end have been issued.

Secondly, that a ship of war of each of the Powers represented at Suda Bay should proceed to the Piraeus, and there remain pending the reply of the Hellenic Government, in order to render such assistance to the Representatives of the Powers and to take such action as may be required of them.

Thirdly, that in the event of the Hellenic Government failing to return a satisfactory answer to the collective note within the period specified, the Representatives of the Powers should demand their passports and embark forthwith on board the ships of war of their respective flags.

Fourthly, that the Commanders of those ships should thereupon notify to the Hellenic Government that the Naval Commanders have received orders to establish a blockade of the east coast of Greece and of the Gulf of Corinth as against all Greek vessels, and that any such vessels attempting to violate that blockade will render themselves liable to capture.

Fifthly, that immediately after such notification the allied squadrons should proceed to act upon it.

Inclosure 2.

Draft oft Collective Note annexed to Secret Pro-memoriâ of April 17, 1886.

Les Soussignés, Représentants de . . . . || sont chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs d'adresser au Cabinet d'Athènes la déclaration suivante:—

"Les préparatifs militaires que la Grèce persiste à continuer, malgré les instances solennelles et réitérées des Puissances, pèsent gravement sur une nation voisine et amie, et constituent aujourd'hui le seul danger qui menace la paix de l'Orient.

"Tous les moyens de conciliation auxquels les Puissances ont eu recours pour amener la Grèce à se conformer aux voeux pacifiques de l'Europe ayant échoué, les Gouvernements précités, se trouvent dans la nécessité d'imposer un terme à cet état de choses.

"En conséquence, les Soussignés, par ordre de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, invitent le Cabinet d'Athènes à mettre l'armée Hellénique sur le pied de paix dans le plus bref délai, et à leur donner l'assurance dans le cours d'une semaine à dater de la présente déclaration que des ordres conformes, ont été promulgués. Nr. 9087. England. 17. April 1886.

"Si, à l'expiration de ce terme, les Soussignés ne recevaient pas de réponse ou en cas qu'elle ne soit pas satisfaisante, le responsabilité des conséquences qu'entraînerait ce refus retomberait tout entière sur le Gouvernement Hellénique."

Nr. 9088. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Anweisung, energische Vorstellungen bei der griechischen Regierung wegen eines auf Kreta geplanten Aufstandes zu machen. [G. 586.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 18 avril 1886.

Je suis informé que les Grecs se prépareraient à provoquer une insurrection en Crète et qu'une grande agitation régnerait à la Canée. || J'ai peine à croire que ces informations soient exactes. Mais si, malheureusement, elles l'étaient, vous n'hésiteriez pas à faire connaître au Gouvernement grec notre blâme énergique et vous vous associeriez à toute démarche de vos Collègues qui aurait pour but de couper court à des excitations coupables. Nous serions ainsi amenés à nous départir de l'attitude bienveillante que nous avons gardée jusqu'ici. || Toutefois, jusqu'à nouvel avis de moi, vous vous abstiendrez, dans vos démarches, soit isolées, soit collectives, de l'emploi de toute expression pouvant impliquer un recours ultérieur à la force. || Tenez-moi au courant. Nr. 9088. Frankreich. 18. April 1886.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9089. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Einwände Bismarcks gegen die englischen Vorschläge. [B. III, 205.]

(Extract.) Athens, April 19, 1886.

I have the honour to report that, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I communicated confidentially to Count Bismarck the further proposals of Her Majesty's Government with regard to Greece, which were forwarded to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant. His Excellency now informs me, that, in Prince Bismarck's opinion, it would be impolitic to break off relations with Greece. Prince Bismarck is, however, prepared to grant leave of absence to the German Minister, and to instruct him to leave Athens at the expiration of the delay mentioned, leaving a Chargé d'Affaires Nr. 9089. England. 19. April 1886.

Nr. 9089. England. 19. April 1886.

in charge of the Legation. || Prince Bismarck is also of opinion, that the note summoning Greece to disarm should be delivered by the Diplomatic Representatives of the Powers, as the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs might refuse to receive it from the naval officers. || Subject to the foregoing reservation, Prince Bismarck accepts your Lordship's proposals, and is telegraphing in this sense to Count Hatzfeldt.

Nr. 9090. ENGLAND. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Griechische Hoffnungen auf Russland und weitere Kriegsvorbereitungen. [B. III, 206.]

Athens, April 19, 1886.

Nr. 9090. England. 19. April 1886.

My Lord, || The departure of the Russian Minister for the Crimea, whither he was summoned yesterday by telegraph, has produced a considerable sensation here, and has been turned to some account by the friends of the Government, who profess to see in it a sign that the Emperor, besides being desirous to confer personally with his Envoy on the general situation here, is willing to extend his protection to the Greeks in the critical predicament in which they find themselves. || M. de Butzow left this afternoon in the "Plastoun," of the Imperial navy, for Mitylene, where he will be met by the Embassy dispatch-boat from Constantinople, which will stop on its way to take M. de Nélidoff on board. The Russian Minister's absence will extend over a fortnight.

General Mavromichalis, Minister of War, also left Athens to-day on a tour of inspection in Thessaly, where he will, it is said, made the necessary arrangements for the establishment of two intrenched camps. I hear on good authority, that his colleagues were much opposed to his journey, considering that his presence was much more desirable here than with the troops on the frontier. || The 1st Regiment of infantry, composed of three very strong battalions, making up some 4,000 men, which is quartered here, is under orders to leave for the front this week. It has always been a crack crops, and is commanded by a brother of the Minister of War, who has the reputation of being a very good officer. It will embark at the Piraeus in steamers belonging to the Greek Steam Navigation Company. || I have, &c.

Horace Rumbold.

Nr. 9091. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Stellung Italiens zur griechischen Frage. [Gr. 93.]

Roma, 19 aprile 1886.

Nr. 9091. Italien. 19. April 1886.

Signor ministro, || Con altri dispacci di questi giorni Le feci conoscere le proposte più recenti del governo britannico per una azione comune da

esercitarsi presso codesto governo, e Le diedi altresì notizia della immediata nostra accettazione. || L'atteggiamento nostro, in questa ultima fase della vertenza ellenica, è logica continuazione di quella linea di condotta che fin da principio adottammo senza esitazione, convinti, come sempre fummo, di provvedere così nel miglior modo, non solo agli interessi generali dell'Europa, ma altresì agli interessi particolari della Grecia. Nondimeno, poichè l'azione che sta per intraprendersi potrebbe assumere un carattere più decisivo, desidero che Le siano noti, in forma chiara e precisa, i criterii che ci furono e ci sono guida nelle presenti contingenze. Nr. 9091. Italien. 19. April 1886.

Una prima considerazione si affaccia, e in certa guisa si impone ad ogni animo imparziale, Esiste veramente, come i ministri ellenici vengono, di tratto in tratto, affermando, un titolo effettivo, una ragione giuridica di quelle che ad Atene si sogliono appellare *rivendicazioni nazionali?* Da ultimo ancora, il signor Delyannis, rispondendo alla nota collettiva con cui i rappresentanti delle potenze gli avevano comunicato il protocollo mercè il quale la conferenza di Costantinopoli componeva testè la questione rumeliota, affermava non poter il governo del Re Giorgio rinunciare alla frontiera che il congresso di Berlino assegnò alla Grecia. Una simile affermazione riesce, per verità, abbastanza singolare de parte di un ministro al quale non possono essere ignoti gli atti diplomatici del 1878 e le successive stipulazioni.

La Signoria Vostra sa che la linea di frontiera segnata nel protocollo XIII del congresso di Berlino era stata messa innanzi a modo di consiglio, con la promessa, da parte delle potenze, di intervenire come mediatrici se non tornava possibile l'accordo diretto tra la Grecia e la Turchia. E la mediazione ebbe realmente ad esplicarsi, conducendo a quel trattato del 24 maggio 1881, che, accettato dalla Grecia, ha chiuso definitivamente la questione, rimanendo bensì esclusa dalla annessione una zona, dalla parte dell'Epiro, che pure era compresa nella linea del protocollo XIII, ma venendo invece inclusi nella cessione imposta alla Turchia territorii, dalla parte della Tessaglia, che stavano all'infuori di quella linea. Invocare, oggi ancora, il trattato di Berlino per una nuova rettificazione di frontiera, è come un voler dichiarare nulla e senza valore la conclusione di lunga e laboriosa opera diplomatica; tale conclusione, che le potenze sono invece concordi, per dignità propria e per debito di onesta fede verso la Turchia, ne riguardare come avente assoluta efficacia e carattere strettamente obbligatorio. || I ministri ellenici, e più ancora gli organi che hanno voce di esprimere il loro pensiero, hanno più d'una volta lasciato intendere come la Grecia non chieda alle potenze che una cosa sola: le si conceda libertà di agire a suo rischio e pericolo, nè si frapponga ostacolo alle operazioni militari cui volesse accingersi. Crediamo, però, che, nell'intimo animo loro, i personaggi aventi la responsabilità dell'avvenire del giovane regno non vorranno recare troppo severo giudizio se le potenze schiettamente amiche, — e l'Italia vuole essere considerata tale, — si mostrano sollecite di risparmiargli un disastro che, secondo informazioni concordi e positive, sarebbe inevitabile

Nr. 9091. Italien. 19. April 1886.

qualora la Grecia, abbandonata alle sole sue forze, avesse a cimentarsi colla Turchia. Quando pure la Grecia potesse con vantaggio tentare una campagna marittima contro la Turchia, anzi precisamente in tale ipotesi, sarebbe impossibile di impedire, da parte della Turchia, una invasione nel regno, che le forze elleniche sarebbero impotenti a respingere.

Per quanto, poi, specialmente concerne l'Italia, le si fa rimprovero di essere, in questa circostanza, venuta meno al rispetto di quel principio di nazionalità che ha presieduto alla nostra unificazione. Di questa censura infondata non mi curo. Noi invocammo, quando giunse il momento opportuno, il principio di nazionalità, ma lo invocammo per preservare da intromissioni straniere la volontaria annessione di provincie aventi nazionalità ben accertata; e lo invocammo mentre, ricorrendo alla ragione suprema delle armi, sapevamo di non esporre a rischio qualsisia la causa della pace generale. Ben diverso è il caso presente della Grecia. Non solo la Grecia abbraccia, con le sue rivendicazioni, territorii abitati da razze diverse, tra le quali, come accadrebbe indubbiamente in Epiro, non farebbero difetto gli elementi di una vivace resistenza, ma, con l'esempio suo, suscita aspirazioni di altre nazionalità mal definite, le quali, quando al movimento fosse dato il primo impulso, non troverebbero più quiete e stabile assetto se non dopo lotte sanguinose ed implacabili. La Grecia (così afferma il signor Delyannis nell'ultima sua nota) non vuole turbare la pace europea; nè vogliamo menomamente revocare in dubbio la sincerità delle sue intenzioni. Nel fatto, però, qualora le potenze rinunciassero all'opera di salutare tutela a cui si sono accinte, e dai confini di Tessaglia e di Epiro il minaccioso incendio, per la Macedonia e l'Albania, ove non mancano gli elementi a mala pena sopiti di secolare agitazione, si propagasse alla intera penisola dei Balcani, la Grecia avrebbe il triste vanto di una generale conflagrazione, di fronte alla quale non potrebbe rimanere indifferente l'Europa, e tanto meno potrebbe rimaner tale l'Italia che, per maggiore vicinanza e per molteplicità di interessi, ha il diritto e il dovere di premunirsene.

Queste, che qui brevemente esposi, sono avvertenze già più di una volta messe innanzi dopo che ebbero principio le presenti agitazioni. Se non avranno avuto tanta efficacia da impedire inconsulti ed intempestivi provvedimenti, varranno almeno, opportunamente espressi da Lei nei Suoi colloqui con codesti ministri, sia a preservare la nostra responsabilità, sia a dar ragione dei nostri atti e del nostro contegno. || Gradisca, ecc.

C. Robilant.

Nr. 9092. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Oesterreichische Vorschläge betreffs der Abberufung der Gesandten aus Athen und der Blokade. [B. III, 225.]

Vienna, April 20, 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to my preceding despatch of this date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, in my conversation with Count Kálnoky this morning relative to the proposals of Her Majesty's Government to induce the Hellenic Government to place their army on a peace footing, his Excellency referred to two points which, he said, had been mentioned by Count Károlyi to your Lordship:— Nr. 9092. England. 20. April 1886.

1. That the withdrawal of the Diplomatic Representatives was only to take place in the event of all the Powers agreeing to this step, as it would obviously be prejudicial to the common object in view if any one Power was to keep its Representative in Athens while the others were recalled, in which view I understood him to say your Lordship had expressed your concurrence.

2. The application of the blockade to Greek merchant-ships, by which the commerce of neutral nations might be interfered with, to which point his Excellency said your Lordship had stated to Count Károlyi that you did not attach much importance, as Greek ships carrying neutral goods would probably register under a neutral flag.

As these points were not put forward by Count Kálnoky as objections in his observations to me, but simply as having been discussed and agreed upon between your Lordship and the Austrian Ambassador, and as, at the conclusion of our interview, Count Kálnoky authorized me to say that he made no objections to the proposed measures, and would probably receive the Emperor's orders to agree to them, I have not thought it necessary to send the substance of this despatch by telegraph. || I have, &c.

A. Paget.

Nr. 9093. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Antwort Delyannis' auf die französischen Vorstellungen betreffs Kretas. [G. 599.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 21 avril 1886.

J'ai signalé aujourd'hui à M. Delyannis la fâcheuse impression que produisaient certains faits imputés au Consul grec de la Canée. Le Président du Conseil en a contesté l'exactitude en assurant que son Agent avait des instructions contraires. Il a ajouté que, par déférence pour nos conseils, il allait renouveler en ce sens les recommandations les plus fermes. Mes Collè- Nr. 9093. Frankreich. 21. April 1886.

Nr. 9093. Frankreich. 21.April1886.

gues n'ont reçu jusqu'à présent aucune direction à cet égard de leurs Gouvernements. || Je crois toujours que M. Delyannis désire éviter la guerre et que la Porte ne le souhaite pas moins. || On pourrait encore amener une solution amiable, si rien d'imprévu ne survient. Moüy.

Nr. 9094. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Stellung Russlands zu den engl. Vorschlägen gegen Griechenland. [G. 600.]

(Télégramme.) St. Pétersbourg, le 21 avril 1886.

Nr. 9094. Frankreich. 21.April1886.

M. de Giers a télégraphié de Livadia à M. de Vlangali que le Gouvernement impérial adhérerait aux deux points principaux de la proposition anglaise: l'ultimatum et le blocus, mais sous cette réserve que le Commandant des forces russes conserverait sa pleine liberté d'action. En d'autres termes, la Russie est disposée à associer ses efforts à ceux des autres Puissances pour obtenir que la Grèce procède à un désarmement immédiat, sans toutefois aller jusqu'à des actes d'hostilité.

Ternaux-Compans.

Nr. 9095. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in London an den Min. des Ausw. — Ueber die Stellung der Grossmächte zu den englischen Vorschlägen. [G. 601.]

(Télégramme.) Londres, le 21 avril 1886.

Nr. 9095. Frankreich. 21.April1886.

Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères me fait savoir que son projet de note à adresser au Gouvernement grec a été accepté par l'Italie et l'Allemagne; il attend d'un jour à l'autre l'acceptation de l'Autriche. Il compte sur le concours effectif de ces trois Puissances. Il croit que la Russie s'associera à la présentation de la note. Il m'a déclaré que le moment d'agir était venu et qu'il était décidé à agir. L'Ambassadeur de Russie m'a dit hier que son Gouvernement ne cesserait pas de tenir au Cabinet grec le langage le plus énergique dans le sens du désarmement. || L'Ambassadeur d'Italie m'a dit que son Gouvernement s'était rallié à la note anglaise.

Waddington.

Nr. 9096. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Instruktion. [B. III, 209.]

Foreign Office, April 21, 1886.

Nr. 9096. England. 21.April1886.

Sir, || I have acquainted you with the measures which Her Majesty's Government have suggested should be adopted with regard to Greece, and the

text of the collective note which they have proposed should be addressed to the Greek Government. || As soon as you ascertain, that the Representatives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia and Italy have received instructions to join in the presentation of the collective note, you should telegraph to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to inquire if those Powers have given orders as to the presence of their ships on the occasion of its delivery. If the reply from His Royal Highness should be in the affirmative, you will request him to send the five ships representing the respective flags at once, and on their arrival at the Piraeus the collective note should be immediately sent in. || Should the reply from the Greek Government render the blockade necessary, notice of such blockade will be given by the Diplomatic Representatives, as the proposal to withdraw them in the event of no satisfactory answer being received has been abandoned. || I am, &c.

Nr. 9096. England. 21. April 1886

Rosebery.

Nr. 9097. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Wien, Berlin, Rom und St.-Petersburg. — Annahme der vorgeschlagenen Aenderungen an den englischen Vorschlägen. [B. III, 212.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, April 21, 1886, 6·50 P.M.

I have to instruct you to thank the Government to which you are accredited for their acceptance in principle of our proposals as to action towards Greece*). || We find, that our proposal as to withdrawal of Diplomatic Representatives does not secure unanimous acceptance, and have decided to withdraw it. The notice of blockade will therefore be delivered by them if the case should arise, and not by the Naval Commanders. || You should now ask the Government to which you are accredited to give orders, that their ships which are to form part of the small squadron present at the delivery of the collective note shall be prepared to sail for the Piraeus whenever the Duke of Edinburgh gives word. You should also request them to instruct their Representative at Athens to join in the presentation of the note as soon as the Representatives of the other Great Powers, except France, are ready to do so.

Nr. 9097. England. 21. April 1886.

*) Der erste Satz fehlt in der Depesche an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg.

Nr. 9098. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland wünscht die Beschlagnahme der griechischen Schiffe durch eine einfache Zurückhaltung derselben zu ersetzen. [B. III, 216.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, April 21, 1886, 11·37 P. M.

Nr. 9098. England. 21. April 1886.

M. Vlangaly, in conversation to-day, expressed an opinion that the term "capture", made use of in the Memorandum as to proposed action towards Greece, was objectionable, as likely to lead to the belief that the captured ships would be regarded as prizes. He said the word "detained", used in the Memorandum I left with M. de Giers on the 3rd April, and which was taken from your Lordship's telegram of the 2nd instant, seemed to him far preferable. I believe, if this concession were made, that the main objection of the Russian Government to the form of the proposals would be removed. || The reply of the Russian Government was to be telegraphed straight from Livadia to the Russian Ambassador in London. || I understand, that the proposals have been accepted in principle, with the proviso that the Russian Commanders shall retain their liberty of movement.

Nr. 9099. **FRANKREICH.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in London. — Schlägt Aenderungen einer Collectivnote der Mächte an Griechenland vor. [G. 603.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 22 avril 1886.

Nr. 9099. Frankreich. 22. April 1886.

L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre vient de me remettre le projet de Note collective que vous m'aviez annoncé, et dont vous connaissez vraisemblablement le texte. J'ai revu Lord Lyons aujourd'hui, et je lui ai donné ma réponse après avoir consulté mes Collègues. Je lui ai dit que la démarche n'était peut-être pas très opportune, surtout en la forme où on la projetait; qu'on aurait gagné sans doute à ménager davantage les susceptibilités des Grecs, et que, si j'avais à rédiger la note, j'emploierais des termes différents, tout en lui laissant la même fermeté de fond; mais que je ne pouvais prétendre à remanier un document qui paraissait déjà accepté de plusieurs Puissances et que je me bornerais à deux corrections qui me semblaient indispensables. Ce sont: 1° la suppression de la phrase incidente „résolus de maintenir les engagements qu'ils ont pris entre eux, aussi bien qu'envers la Turquie"; j'ai dit à Lord Lyons que, par là, les Puissances se donnaient l'air d'avoir formé une sorte de coalition contre la Grèce; Lord Lyons a reconnu la justesse de mon observation; 2° le remplacement du mot *imposer* par *fixer;* Lord Lyons a également apprécié cette correction. || En outre, mais ceci est de la pure forme, j'ai proposé de supprimer les mots: *ou en cas qu'elle ne soit pas.* || Lord Lyons m'a demandé ensuite ce que ferait le Gouvernement français rela-

tivement au blocus éventuel et au rappel des agents. Je lui ai dit que, pour le blocus, le sentiment public en France ne nous permettrait pas d'y prendre part; que, quant au rappel de M. de Moüy, nous examinerions. Nr. 9099. Frankreich. 22.April1886.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9100. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Erklärung an Griechenland über die Ansicht und die Stellung der französischen Regierung zur griechischen Frage. [G. 605; Gr. 104; B. I, 2; B. III, 333.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 22 avril 1886.

Veuillez demander immédiatement une entrevue officielle à M. Delyannis, et lui donner lecture de la Déclaration suivante: Nr. 9100. Frankreich. 22.April1886.

„La France a donné à la Grèce des marques non équivoques de son amitié. Dans ces derniers temps, elle lui a adressé, à diverses reprises, des conseils dictés par la plus sincère sympathie. Aujourd'hui, sous l'influence du même sentiment, elle croit devoir lui faire entendre un solennel avertissement. || L'attitude actuelle de la Nation grecque l'expose aux plus graves périls. En y persistant elle court au-devant d'une catastrophe ou d'une humiliation. Sans vouloir préjuger les résolutions de l'Europe, nous sommes certains qu'elle opposera une barrière aux entreprises que la Grèce pourrait former contre la Turquie. Bientôt, sans doute, les Puissances notifieront cette volonté au Cabinet hellénique et le mettront en demeure de renoncer à ses armements. A ce moment, quelle sera sa situation? Ne sera-t-il pas obligé, un peu plus tôt ou un peu plus tard, d'obtempérer à cette injonction? Nous voudrions éviter cette pénible extrémité à la Grèce; c'est pourquoi nous venons dire à son Gouvernment: "Rendez-vous à l'évidence, écoutez la voix d'une Puissance amie, suivez des conseils qui n'ont rien de blessant pour votre amour-propre. Prenez, pendant qu'il en est temps encore, une initiative dont vous êtes les maîtres et dont vous aurez tout le mérite. || Nous ajouterons que, si des jours plus favorables doivent luire pour la Grèce, son Gouvernement les préparera par cette attitude prévoyante dont l'Europe entière lui saura gré. Nous-mêmes, nous n'oublierons pas qu'en déférant à nous voeux, la Grèce nous aura épargné le chagrin de nous associer à des démarches d'un tout autre caractère, auxquelles notre constant souci de la paix générale nous interdit de refuser notre concours."

Vous laisserez à M. Delyannis copie de cette déclaration*).

C. de Freycinet.

*) Auf telegraphische Anfrage erhielt Delyannis am 24. April die Antwort, dass diese Erklärung Frankreichs nicht vertraulicher Natur sei. [G. 609 und 610.] Anm. der Redaktion.

Nr. 9101. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Grafen Herbert Bismarck. — England hat die deutschen Vorschläge angenommen. [B. III, 234.]

Berlin, April 22, 1886.

Nr. 9101. England. 22. April 1886.

M. le Comte, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that I am instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to thank the Imperial Government for the general acceptance which they have given to the proposals made to them through his Excellency Count Hatzfeldt in regard to the further measures to be adopted towards Greece. || Her Majesty's Government have abandoned the suggestion of withdrawing the Diplomatic Representatives at Athens, as it has not secured unanimous acceptance. The notice of blockade will therefore be delivered by the Diplomatic Representatives, if the case should arise, and not by the Naval Commanders. || Her Majesty's Government desire me to request, that orders may be given that the ship of the Imperial Government which is to form part of the small squadron to be present at the delivery of the collective note shall be prepared to sail when the Duke of Edinburgh gives the word; and also that the Imperial German Representative at Athens may be instructed to join in the presentation of the note when the Representatives of the other Great Powers, except France, are ready. || I avail, &c. Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9102. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Ueber die Aufnahme der französischen Erklärung von Seiten Delyannis'. [G. 607.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 23 avril 1886.

Nr. 9102. Frankreich. 23. April 1886.

Selon vos instructions, j'ai donné lecture et laissé copie à M. Delyannis de votre dépêche d'hier en faisant ressortir la solennité de la démarche dont j'étais chargé. Le Président du Conseil m'a prié de vous exprimer toute sa gratitude pour ce témoignage d'intérêt et de bienveillance. Il a insisté à plusieurs reprises sur la haute influence que cette Déclaration doit exercer sur le Gouvernement et le pays. Il m'a demandé de ne répondre qu'après avoir conféré avec le Conseil des Ministres, en ajoutant qu'en l'absence du Ministre de la Guerre, il ne pourra me faire connaître une décision avant lundi soir. J'ai exprimé mon regret de ce retard; mais M. Delyannis ne veut pas préjuger l'avis d'un Collègue aussi considérable dans le Cabinet. Lui-même m'a paru très ému, mais indécis. Il prétend craindre que l'opinion ne lui reproche de reculer sans avoir rien obtenu, Il a paru penser que bien des gens préféreraient ne céder qu'à la force. Il eût évidemment désiré des assurances en faveur des intérêts helléniques. J'ai insisté alors en termes

sobres, et en me référant à l'autorité supérieure de votre télégramme, sur les avantages d'une décision pacifique immédiate, motivée par les considérations les plus graves et par les démarches péremptoires d'une Puissance particulièrement investie du respect et de la confiance de la Grèce. || J'ai fait remarquer que si la Grèce ne cède qu'à la force elle restera sous le coup du mécontentement des Puissances, tandis qu'une solution amiable, gardant au pays la bienveillance de l'Europe, est plus rassurante pour l'avenir. || Cet argument de votre télégramme a particulièrement frappé le Président du Conseil. Il m'a dit, en terminant, qu'il allait communiquer au Roi, ce soir ou demain matin, le texte que je lui avais remis. Moüy.

Nr. 9102. Frankreich. 23. April 1886.

Nr. 9103. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Auswärt. — Frankreich lehnt die Theilnahme an der Blokade ab und schlägt Aenderungen an dem Entwurf der Collectivnote vor. [B. III, 226.]

Paris, April 23, 1886.

My Lord, || I communicated to M. de Freycinet on the 20th instant, in strict confidence, the Memorandum and draft collective note relative to the course to be pursued with a view to inducing the Greek Government to place its army on a peace footing, which were transmitted to me with your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant. I have since been in communication with his Excellency on the subject of them, and the result has been as follows:—

Nr. 9103. England. 23. April 1886.

M. de Freycinet doubts whether a summons to the Greek Government to disarm, such as that contained in the proposed collective note, would be opportune or efficacious. He would, however, rather join in the note than separate France from the rest of Europe, or weaken the effect of it by standing aloof. He wishes, however, to suggest some alterations in the wording. || M. de Freycinet is not prepared to associate himself with the other Powers in the step of withdrawing the Diplomatic Representatives from Athens. If, however, the other Powers withdraw their diplomatic Representatives, M. de Freycinet will withdraw the French military and naval missions which are now in Greece. || M. de Freycinet states distinctly, that France will not take any part in the intended blockade.

The amendments suggested by M. de Freycinet in the collective note are:—

Third paragraph: strike out "résolus de maintenir les engagements qu'ils ont pris entre eux aussi bien qu'envers la Turquie." || Same paragraph: for "imposer" read "de fixer." || Last paragraph: strike out "ou en cas qu'elle ne soit pas." || I have &c. Lyons.

Nr. 9104. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Frankreich besteht auf den vorgeschlagenen wesentlichen Aenderungen an dem Texte der von England verfassten Collectivnote. [G. 611.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 24 avril 1886.

Nr. 9104. Frankreich. 24.April1886.

L'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre m'a annoncé ce matin que la première modification réclamée par moi dans le projet de Note collective avait été introduite, et qu'il me priait, pour le surplus, de passer outre, tous les Représentants des Puissances à Athènes ayant reçu ordre de remettre la note ainsi libellée. J'ai renoncé à la troisième modification de pure forme; mais j'ai insisté pour que le mot *imposer* fût remplacé par le mot *fixer*. Lord Lyons m'a fait espérer que satisfaction pourrait m'être donnée dans la journée de demain, ce qui permettrait à M. de Moüy de s'associer à ses Collègues lundi. Je lui envoie des instructions en conséquence. || J'ai profité de l'occasion pour confirmer à Lord Lyons que nous ne participerions pas au blocus. Quant aux Ministres, les Puissances se borneraient à leur donner un congé, mais ne les rappelleraient pas*). C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9105. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Italien und Rom. — Russland stimmt der Ueberreichung der Collectivnote bei. [B. III, 230.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, April 24, 1886, 4·15 P.M.

Nr. 9105. England. 24.April1886.

I have received information, that the Russian Government have given instructions to their Minister and Admiral to join in the presentation of the collective note to the Greek Government. || Urge on the Government to which you are accredited the importance of speedy action.

Nr. 9106. FRANKREICH. — Interimist. Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Aufnahme des französischen Schrittes in Athen seitens der Pforte. [G. 615.]

(Télégramme.) Péra, le 24 avril 1886.

Nr. 9106. Frankreich. 24.April1886.

Aujourd'hui même j'ai communiqué au Ministre des Affairs étrangères la substance des instructions que vous avez adressées avant-hier au Ministre de la République à Athènes. || Saïd-Pascha s'est montré extrêmement sensible à cette démarche de votre part. Il l'a portée immédiatement à la connaissance

*) Am selben Tage meldet der Botschafter in London, dass England dieser Forderung Frankreichs zustimme und dasselbe von den andern Mächten zu erreichen hoffe. [G. 616.]

du Sultan. Il fait des voeux pour que cette amicale et suprême adjuration de la France soit écoutée et m'a dit que, quoi qu'il arrivât, la Turquie garderait fidèlement le souvenir des conseils pacifiques que Votre Excellence n'a cessé de donner au Cabinet d'Athènes. Je l'ai remercié de ces assurances.

Montholon.

Nr. 9106. Frankreich. 24.April1886.

Nr. 9107. **ENGLAND.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Alle Gesandten sind zur Ueberreichung der Collectivnote ermächtigt, der deutsche im Falle ungenügender Antwort zur Abreise. [B. III, 236.]

(Telegraphic.) Athens, April 24, 1886, 5·40 P.M.

With reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 21st instant, I have the honour to report that all my colleagues have now received instructions to join in the presentation of the collective note. I have therefore telegraphed to the Duke of Edinburgh to make arrangements as regards the ships. The note will probably be sent in Monday morning, so as to allow Easter Sunday to pass. || The instructions to the Austrian Minister state, that our French colleague may possibly join in the note. We shall therefore take an opportunity of sounding him on the subject. || The German Minister's instructions are to go on leave at once, in case of unsatisfactory reply, and to leave his Secretary in charge of the Legation.

Nr. 9107. England. 24.April1886.

Nr. 9108. **DIE GROSSMÄCHTE AUSSER FRANKREICH.** — Ihre Gesandten in Athen an ihre Kabinette. — Anzeige ihrer Beschlüsse, betreffend die Ueberreichung des Ultimatums an Griechenland. [Gr. 102; B. III, 255 engl.]

Vaisseaux arrivés à Phalère aujourd'hui, dimanche, à 4 heures p. m., vingt-quatre heures plus tôt qu'ils n'étaient attendus. Nous espérons que le gouvernement grec cède dans la journée de demain, sans qu'on en arrive à la remise de la note collective. Dans le cas contraire, la note sera remise demain, à 5 heures après midi.

Nr. 9108. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 25.April1886.

Nr. 9109. **FRANKREICH.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Stimmung der griechischen Regierung. [G. 617.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 25 avril 1886, 11 h. 50 soir.

J'ai insisté de nouveau, aujourd'hui, auprès du Président du Conseil sur l'urgence d'une décision. Il sort de chez moi et je lui ai exposé avec la plus

Nr. 9109. Frankreich. 25.April1886.

Nr. 9109. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

grande énergie la nécessité de choisir immédiatement entre une solution qui sauve la dignité et l'avenir de la Grèce, et une obstination absolument stérile. Il m'a répété comme dans la journée, que son sentiment est de déférer à nos désirs; mais le peu de temps qui lui est laissé, l'absence du Ministre de la guerre, la crainte du parti belliqueux entravent sa bonne volonté. Cependant ses dispositions me semblent très favorables. || Je ne puis rien affirmer encore; mais je crois très opportun qu'à tout événement les Puissances consentent à retarder jusqu'à mardi ou mercredi le départ de leurs bâtiments pour le Pirée et l'envoi de la Note. || J'ai obtenu que M. Delyannis assemble demain matin le Conseil des Ministres sans attendre le Ministre de la guerre. Il me donnera réponse vers 3 heures.

Nr. 9110. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Beauftragt ihn, die griechische Regierung zur Nachgiebigkeit zu bringen. [G. 618.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 25 avril 1886.

Nr. 9110. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

Les modifications que j'ai demandé à introduire dans la Note en ayant déjà retardé la remise jusqu'à lundi soir, je ne crois pas pouvoir réclamer un nouvel ajournement. C'est à vous qu'il appartient de stimuler les décisions de M. Delyannis, et au besoin, s'il y avait décidément matière à espérances sérieuses, d'obtenir de vos collègues un léger sursis qu'ils ne refuseraient sans doute pas dans de telles conditions. || Lord Lyons que je viens de voir, me fait espérer que la substitution de mots que j'avais indiquée sera probablement admise par les Cabinets. Quoi qu'il en soit, tenez-vous prêt à vous joindre à vos Collègues demain soir pour la remise de la note, avec ou sans ce changement. J'ajoute que j'ai décliné, vis-à-vis des Puissances, toute participation de notre part au blocus. Je vous en préviens à titre strictement personnel. C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9111. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über den Erfolg der französischen Schritte in Athen. [G. 624.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 25 avril 1886.

Nr. 9111. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

Le Président du Conseil et ses collègues de la Marine et de l'Intérieur ont exprimé en Conseil l'avis de déférer aux conseils de la France. M. Delyannis est venu me l'annoncer ce matin en ajoutant toutefois que le Ministre de la Guerre étant absent*) et le Ministre de la Justice n'étant pas persuadé,

*) Derselbe befand sich beim Heere in Thessalien. Anm. der Red.

il n'osait me donner encore une décision. Je lui ai rappelé l'impossibilité d'attendre et je lui ai manifesté le désir d'entretenir le Ministre de la Justice. || Je sors de cette entrevue: Le Ministre de la Justice a été fort ébranlé et je dois dire que M. Delyannis a vivement appuyé mon argumentation. Il m'a même avoué qu'il pourrait passer outre à l'assentiment du Ministre de la Guerre. J'aurai sa réponse définitive ce soir. Moüy. Nr. 9111. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

Nr. 9112. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Griechenland giebt den französischen Vorstellungen nach. [G. 625.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 25 avril 1886.

M. Delyannis me fait savoir à l'instant par le Secrétaire général des Affaires étrangères, que le Conseil des Ministres a donné son adhésion complète à la communication française. || Je recevrai ce soir un mot écrit de M. Delyannis constatant ce résultat. || Je préviens mes Collègues de la situation nouvelle. Moüy. Nr. 9112. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

Nr. 9113. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Meldet die Antwort Griechenlands auf die französischen Vorstellungen und berichtet über das Verhalten der Vertreter der übrigen Grossmächte. [G. 626; die griechische Antwort auch Gr. 104; B. I, 2 und B. III, 333.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 25 avril 1886.

Je reçois de M. Delyannis la lettre particulière suivante:

„Je m'empresse de porter à votre connaissance que le Gouvernement royal a décidé d'adhérer aux conseils du Gouvernement de la République française. || Je me réserve de vous adresser une communication officielle de cette décision, en réponse au télégramme de M. de Freycinet du 22 avril, après l'arrivée du Ministre de la Guerre qui est, comme vous le savez, en Thessalie, et qui sera de retour mardi prochain."

J'ai donné à mes Collègues avis de cette adhésion. || Néanmoins, ils déclarent ne point se considérer comme autorisés à suspendre l'envoi de leur Note au delà de mardi matin, n'ayant eux-mêmes rien reçu du Gouvernement grec. J'ai prié le Ministre d'Angleterre, qui est venu ce soir me parler en leur nom, de surseoir jusqu'à nouvelles instructions des Gouvernements respectifs, la Note ne me paraissant plus répondre à la situation présente. J'ai ajouté que le point capital, c'est-à-dire la paix, étant acquis à la discussion, la question de procédure pourra être réglée ultérieurement. Moüy. Nr. 9113. Frankreich. 25. April 1886.

Nr. 9114. **FRANKREICH.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Beglückwünscht ihn und die griechische Regierung zu deren Entschlüssen. [G. 627.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 26 avril 1886.

Nr. 9114. Frankreich. 26. April 1886. Recevez toutes mes félicitations pour le succès de vos démarches auprès du Gouvernement hellénique. || Remerciez chaleureusement M. Delyannis, de la part du Gouvernement français, pour la sage et patriotique résolution qu'il vient de prendre. C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9115. **ENGLAND.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Zusammenfassender Bericht über die Ereignisse vom 24. bis 26. April. [B. III, 333.]

(Extract.) Athens, April 26, 1886.

Nr. 9115. England. 26. April 1886. My telegrams of the 25th and 26th instant have long ago placed Her Majesty's Government in possession of the outline of what has taken place here in the last few days; but in order to give your Lordship a thoroughly clear idea of the course of events I must, I fear, trouble you with a somewhat lengthy narrative.

Having ascertained by Saturday afternoon that all my colleagues had received instructions to join in the presentation of the collective ultimatum, I telegraphed, as directed by your Lordship, to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, to inform him of the fact, and requested His Royal Highness to let me know whether the Powers had given instructions for the presence of their ships on the occasion of its delivery. I arranged at the same time to meet my colleagues next day (Sunday) at the Italian Legation for the purpose of settling the text of the note which we proposed to send in on Monday morning. || Having meanwhile been apprised by my Austrian colleague, and later on by your Lordship's telegrams of the 24th instant, that the French Minister would probably receive orders to join in our step, I thought it right to call upon M. de Moüy on my way to the meeting and to show him, in confidence, the draft of the proposed note, pointing out the alteration which had been made in its wording in order to secure the adhesion of his Government. || M. de Moüy thanked me for my communication, said that he was quite ready to sign the note, although not yet instructed to do so, and then for the first time informed me that he had acquitted himself two days before of a very pressing message from M. de Freycinet, in which M. Delyanni was adjured to listen to reasonable counsels. || I then proceeded to attend the meeting, where I found that my colleagues were informed in a general way of the recent effort made by the French Minister.

Late in the afternoon the news spread, that the allied squadron was

already in sight, and, my colleagues coming in to inquire how this had happened, an informal meeting took place at my house, at which a general opinion was expressed that, in view of the presence of the ships (which, through some misunderstanding, had left Suda-Bay sooner than I expected), it was desirable to send in the note at latest the following evening. || While we were discussing this point M. Deschamps, of the French Legation, was announced, with a special message for me from his chief, and I received him in another room. M. de Moüy sent me word, that he had received a verbal assurance from M. Delyanni of a most favourable nature, and that he was promised later on in the evening some written communication to the same effect. I asked M. Deschamps whether he considered that his chief wished me to inform my colleagues at once of the purport of his message. I could not, I said, undertake to keep from them intelligence of such importance. M. Deschamps replied, that he felt certain that the Comte de Moüy would wish the news to be imparted to them; it might, in fact, be considered as a settlement of the whole question. || On communicating M. de Moüy's message to my colleagues I soon found, that the doubts I had as to the value of M. Delyanni's assurances were more than shared by them, and we unanimously agreed that nothing less than some categorical written engagement from the Prime Minister to place the Greek land and sea forces on a peace footing in the shortest possible time, of which we should be informed before 5 o'clock the next day, could justify us in suspending our action.

I undertook to acquaint M. de Moüy with this decision, and accordingly went to him immediately after dinner, when he showed me a private note from M. Delyanni which he had shortly before received, and which, in his opinion, was entirely satisfactory. In this note (which forms one of the inclosures to the present despatch) M. Delyanni stated, that the Council of Ministers had agreed to adhere to the advice given by the Government of the French Republic. An official communication to this effect would be addressed to him after the return from Thessaly of the Minister of War, who might be expected back on Tuesday. According to M. de Moüy, this assurance implied all that could be desired. || I observed, that it contained nothing about immediate disarmament, which was the only point we had to deal with. || Disarmament, he replied, was of course included, though the Greek Government would naturally on this point wish to carry out a programme which was already settled, and would take a certain time for its completion. || This, I told M. de Moüy, seemed to me as vague as it was unsatisfactory. But above all, I could not but tell him that my colleagues and myself could hardly be expected to be satisfied with this show of yielding to the advice of the French Government alone, while the other Governments of Europe were treated as of no account. || What assurances were given must therefore be given to all of us, and M. Delyanni must, in fact, understand that it was not a case of deferring to the sympathetic advice of France but of submitting

Nr. 9115. England. 26. April 1886.

to the express will of Europe. || The opinion of my colleagues would, I was certain, be unanimous on all these points, and unless he could obtain from M. Delyanni some definite engagement to disarm, I was convinced that they would not be disposed to suspend their action, nor could I advise their doing so. || At the same time I would willingly undertake to show them M. Delyanni's communication and take their opinion about it, if he would intrust it to me for that purpose. This, after considerable hesitation, M. de Moüy consented to do, making me promise that the document should be treated as most strictly confidential, and no copy taken of it on any account.

I now joined my colleagues at the German Minister's, and found that their impressions of the assurances so far obtained from M. Delyanni entirely coincided with mine. It was agreed, however, that we should give the Prime Minister a last chance of avoiding the delivery of the ultimatum, and with that object I there and then addressed to our French colleague a private note, stating the nature of the assurance which would alone satisfy us. We then again discussed the question of delivering the note the next afternoon (Monday), and I represented, to the best of my ability, that as the ships had gone away again, though still in reach (as explained elsewhere), the step need not be taken before Tuesday morning. On this point, however, I found the opinion of my colleagues so strong that I felt that, without some risk of disturbing the complete harmony with which we had so far worked together, it was not possible for me to run counter to it. || Captain Wilmot, of the "Dolphin," who had already met the iron-clads that afternoon, and requested their Commanders to go to sea again, was, in fact, urgently begged by my colleagues to seek them out and bring them back, if possible, the following evening. || Whatever doubts I may have had as to the expediency of presenting the note before Tuesday were, I confess, fully dispelled by the manner in which the Prime Minister made public the next morning his arrangement with M. de Moüy. Not only did he insert in the "Proïa" a kind of *communiqué* written by himself, as I happen to know for certain, and of which I inclose a copy in another despatch, but all the means of publicity at his disposal were made use of to convey the idea that the French *démarche* had been accompanied by promises which would fully satisfy the aspirations of the country, and that Greece, although consenting not to break the peace, would remain fully prepared till their accomplishment.

We met again at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at my house, and while we were assembled there the identic note from M. Delyanni, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy — and which is simply a letter covering the message of M. de Freycinet and the private note from M. Delyanni to M. de Moüy, which our French colleague had already communicated to us with such precautions —, was placed in my hands. I read it out to my colleagues, their copies of the document not having yet reached them; and we agreed without the least hesitation that it was utterly inadequate, both in form and substance,

for the purpose our Governments had in view, and that we should in no way be justified in suspending our action on account of it. This document, I should observe, had that morning been announced by M. de Moüy to our Italian colleague as being about to be sent to us, and described by him as everything we could possibly desire. || There remained nothing for us but to adhere to our programme, and we accordingly met again at 5 o'clock at the Italian Legation, and finally signed the ultimatum, which, as already reported to your Lordship, was sent in before 7 that same evening.

Nr. 9115. England. 26. April 1886.

Nr. 9116. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Vertreter der übrigen Grossmächte beharren auf der Collectivnote an Griechenland. [G. 630.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 26 avril 1886.

Malgré l'adhésion du Gouvernement grec, que je leur ai fait connaître confidentiellement, et malgré ma demande instante d'un sursis, mes collègues persistent à envoyer la Note collective qui n'a plus de raison d'être et qu'evidemment je ne dois plus signer. Moüy.

Nr. 9116. Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

Nr. 9117. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Räth Griechenland seine Nachgiebigkeit sofort den übrigen Grossmächten anzuzeigen. [G. 631.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 26 avril 1886.

Conseillez à M. Delyannis de notifier directement et sans délai sa résolution aux Puissances et à leurs Représentants à Athènes, s'il ne l'a déjà fait. Il est essentiel de ménager toutes les susceptibilités. || Si pour un motif que je ne peux pas prévoir, et la dernière résolution de M. Delyannis n'étant pas changée, vos collègues persistaient néanmoins à vouloir remettre la note collective, vous ne vous joindriez pas à eux, et vous m'aviseriez d'urgence.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9117. Frankreich. 26 April 1886.

Nr. 9118. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Haltung der Vertreter der übrigen Grossmächte und seine Absichten dem gegenüber. [G. 635.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 26 avril 1886.

Je suis très reconnaissant à Votre Excellence du témoignage de satisfaction qu'elle a bien voulu m'adresser. Je ferai part à M. Delyannis de votre

Nr. 9118. Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

Nr. 9118. Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

sentiment sur sa conduite. L'impression ici paraît jusqu'à présent excellente. Toutefois, mes collègues, qui ont reçu à l'instant du Gouvernement grec la communication officielle dont j'ai donné avis dans mon dernier télégramme comprenant les deux Documents que je vous ai indiqués, persistent, malgré mes observations réitérées, à signer leur Note collective ce soir. Ils n'en réfèrent pas à leur Gouvernement et n'attendent pas la réponse aux télégrammes par lesquels dès hier soir, sans doute, ils ont informé leurs Cabinets de la situation. || Je m'abstiens, bien entendu, de me joindre à eux. || On dit qu'un premier décret, qui renvoie les deux dernières classes appelées, aurait été signé par le Roi dès ce matin.

Moüy.

Nr. 9119. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in London an den Min. des Ausw. — Lord Rosebery lehnt die vorgeschlagene Suspendirung der Collectivnote an Griechenland ab. [G. 636.]*)

(Télégramme.) Londres, le 26 avril 1886.

Nr. 9119. Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

Au reçu de votre télégramme d'aujourd'hui j'ai vu immédiatement Lord Rosebery qui était venu en ville à la suite des nouvelles d'Athènes. Je lui ai fait part de la communication de M. Delyannis à M. le Comte de Moüy, et je l'ai prié d'envoyer par le télégraphe des instructions au Représentant de la Reine à Athènes afin qu'il soit sursis à la remise de la Note collective. || Lord Rosebery m'a répondu que les Représentants des Puissances en Grèce avaient reçu de leurs Gouvernements respectifs l'ordre de procéder aujourd'hui même à la remise de cette note si le Gouvernement grec ne leur avait pas préalablement fait une déclaration analogue à celle dont M. le Comte de Moüy a été l'objet. D'après les dernières nouvelles reçues de Sir H. Rumboldt, cette note devait être présentée ce soir à cinq heures. Dans ces conditions, Lord Rosebery m'a prié de vous exprimer ses regrets que l'heure avancée ne lui permît pas d'adresser, en temps utile, à Athènes, l'ordre de surseoir à la démarche collective. Les Ambassadeurs d'Italie, d'Allemagne et de Turquie, qui étaient au courant de la résolution que vient de prendre le Gouvernement grec et de la démarche faite par M. Delyannis auprès de M. le Comte de Moüy, ont eu cette après-midi une entrevue avec Lord Rosebery.

Waddington.

*) Auf dieselben Vorstellungen in Wien antwortet Kalnoky, er müsse sich über ein solches Verfahren zuvörderst mit den Mächten einigen und er wolle den österreichisch-ungarischen Gesandten in Athen anweisen, sich dieserhalb mit den Vertretern der übrigen Mächte zu verabreden. [G. 637].

Nr. 9120. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Paris. — Antwort Italiens auf das Ersuchen Frankreichs, die Ueberreichung der Collectivnote an Griechenland aufzuschieben. [Gr. 103.]

Roma, 26 aprile 1886.

Nr. 9120. Italien. 26. April 1886.

Signor ambasciatore, || Venne oggi da me l'ambasciatore di Francia con un telegramma urgente del suo governo. || Il signor di Freycinet prega che si sospenda la consegna della nota collettiva al governo ellenico fino a domani, martedì, che sarebbe il termine entro il quale il signor Delyannis, in una lettera particolare scritta al conte di Moüy, si è impegnato a confermare ufficialmente la promessa contenuta nella lettera stessa, di arrendersi, cioè, alle istanze della Francia, procedendo al disarmo. || Ho risposto al signor Decrais che oramai mi faceva difetto il tempo per intendermi, a questo riguardo, cogli altri gabinetti; che però il nostro ministro in Atene aveva facoltà di conformarsi all'atteggiamento del suo collega d'Inghilterra. Se, quindi, questi ricevesse istruzioni concepite nel senso desiderato dalla Francia, anche il nostro rappresentante se ne gioverebbe. || Gradisca, ecc.

C. Robilant.

Nr. 9121. DIE GROSSMÄCHTE AUSSER FRANKREICH. — Collectivnote an die griechische Regierung. — Ultimatum: Forderung der Abrüstung binnen 8 Tagen. [B. I, 1; B. III, 332; Gr. 104.]

Nr. 9121. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

Les Soussignés, Envoyés Extraordinaires et Ministres Plénipotentiaires d'Italie, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie et de la Grande-Bretagne, et M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, ont l'honneur d'accuser réception à son Excellence M. Delyanni, Président du Conseil et Ministre de Affaires Étrangères, de sa note identique en date de ce jour. || Le contenu de cette note ne répondant pas aux instructions qu'ils tiennent de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, les Soussignés, se conformant aux ordres qu'ils ont reçus, ont l'honneur de faire au Cabinet d'Athènes la déclaration suivante:—

„Les préparatifs militaires que la Grèce persiste à continuer malgré les instances solennelles et réitérées des Puissances, pèsent gravement sur une nation voisine et amie et constituent aujourd'hui le seul danger qui menace la paix de l'Europe. || Tous les moyens de conciliation auxquels les Puissances ont eu recours pour amener la Grèce à se conformer aux voeux pacifiques de l'Europe ayant échoué, les Gouvernements susmentionnés se trouvent dans la nécessité de fixer un terme à cet état de choses. || En conséquence, les Soussignés, par ordre de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, invitent le Cabinet d'Athènes à mettre les forces Helléniques de terre et de mer sur le pied de

Nr. 9121. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

paix dans le plus bref délai et à leur donner l'assurance, dans le courant d'une semaine à dater de la présente déclaration, que des ordres conformes ont été promulgués. || Si, à l'expiration de ce terme, les Soussignés ne recevaient pas une réponse, ou dans le cas où la réponse ne serait pas satisfaisante, la responsabilité des conséquences qu'entraînerait ce refus retomberait tout entière sur le Gouvernement Grec."

Les Soussignés profitent, &c.

Athènes, le 26 avril, 1886.

Curtopassi. — Brincken. — Trauttenberg. — Horace Rumbold. — J. Bakhméteff.

Nr. 9122. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über Stellung Griechenlands zur Collectivnôte der 5 Mächte. [G. 641.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 26 avril 1886.

Nr. 9122. Frankreich. 26. April 1886.

Fort heureusement la remise de la Note collective n'a pas modifié les résolutions du Gouvernement grec. M. Delyannis me fait savoir, ce soir, par le Secrétaire général des Affaires étrangères, qu'il aurait l'intention de répondre demain en se référant à la communication qu'il a faite aujourd'hui aux Représentants des cinq Puissances, et qui indique les intentions du Cabinet royal. Il ajouterait, pour mettre fin à ce malentendu, que la démobilisation et la mise sur pied de paix étaient implicitement contenues dans l'adhésion à la communication française. Je suis frappé comme vous de la convenance de ménager certaines susceptibilités; j'ai insisté en ce sens auprès du Gouvernement grec qui comprend la haute valeur de cette considération, à son point de vue et au nôtre. Moüy.

Nr. 9123. ITALIEN. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über das Verhalten Griechenlands auf die Schritte Frankreichs und die weiteren Entschlüsse der Vertreter der übrigen 5 Grossmächte. [Gr. 104.]

Atene, 27 aprile 1886.

Nr. 9123. Italien. 27. April 1886.

Signor ministro, || Ad eccezione del ministro di Francia, gli altri rappresentanti della grandi potenze hanno ricevuto ieri, prima delle cinque, una nota identica, con la quale il signor Delyannis si limita semplicemente a trasmetterci copia di un telegramma del signor di Freycinet al conte di Moüy e di una lettera particolare indirizzata da lui a questo diplomatico. || Mi son creduto in dovere di trasmettere all'Eccellenza Vostra, per telegrafo, il testo della nota e della lettera, come pure un riassunto del telegramma del presi-

dente del consiglio francese. || Oggi ho l'onore di compiegare i tre documenti *in extenso**). Nr. 9123. Italien. 27. April 1886.

I cinque rappresentanti, chiamati a consulta, hanno trovato la comunicazione del signor Delyannis affatto insufficiente e meno riguardosa dei nostri rispettivi governi; di guisa che, malgrado le più premurose sollecitazioni del rappresentante della repubblica, abbiamo dato ieri stesso corso, siccome era stato convenuto, alla nota collettiva, facendola precedere dal preambolo che figura nella copia che ho l'onore di trasmetterle qui unita. || Gradisca, ecc.

F. Curtopassi.

Nr. 9124. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in London. — Wie das Ultimatum zu rechtfertigen sei? [B. III, 274.]

(Télégraphique.) Athènes, le 27 avril, 1886, 1·10 matin.

Hier j'ai adressé lettre au Ministre de France à Athènes annonçant notre adhésion aux conseils de France. Aujourd'hui j'ai communiqué aux Représentants des Grandes Puissances copie de la communication de M. de Freycinet contenant les conseils dont je vous ai parlé, et une copie de ma lettre au Ministre de France, relative à notre adhésion. Ce soir les Représentants des Grandes Puissances, à l'exception du Ministre de France, m'ont adressé un ultimatum, tout en accusant réception de ma communication. Comment peut-on justifier l'ultimatum? Je ne comprends pas. Nr. 9124. Griechenland. 27. April 1886.

Nr. 9125. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in London. — Soll die Zurückziehung des Ultimatums zu erreichen suchen. [B. 275.]

(Télégraphique.) Athènes, le 28 Avril, 1886, 3 h. matin.

Les conseils du Gouvernement Français consistaient à nous engager à prendre la résolution spontanée d'un changement de la politique d'armements adoptée jusqu'ici, cette politique ayant été considérée comme une menace pour la paix générale. La France nous assura qu'en abandonnant librement cette attitude, sans attendre une pression, nous rendrions service à l'Europe, que nous disposerions en faveur de la question nationale. Nous avons adhéré à ces conseils, ayant à la fois la pensée de manifester notre déference aux conseils de l'Europe, et nous allions agir en conséquence en portant dans nos affaires militaires des changements qui auraient persuadé tout le monde que le Gouvernement Royal respecte ses engagements.' Mais avant que deux jours Nr. 9125. Griechenland. 28. April 1886.

*) Es sind die Nrr. 9100 und 9113, und ein rein förmliches Begleitschreiben Delyannis'.

Nr. 9125. Griechenland. 28. April 1886.

ne fussent écoulés, quoique nous eussions déjà communiqué cette décision à MM. les Représentants des Cinq Puissances, ils nous ont adressé un ultimatum, par lequel ils nous ont fait connaître qu'ils ne considéraient pas ce qui a été fait comme satisfaisant, et nous invitaient à démobiliser dans l'espace de huit jours. Donc, au lieu d'être laissés libres d'agir de la manière la plus conforme aux nécessités du service militaire et de l'ordre public, nous nous trouvons en présence d'un ultimatum, d'un délai de huit jours, d'une action éventuelle des flottes des Cinq Grandes Puissances. || La remise de l'ultimatum a modifié la situation créée par notre adhésion aux conseils de la France. Désormais, la liberté d'action est enlevée; personne ne nous saura gré de notre détermination, et nous sommes sommés d'agir sous le coup d'une menace. Et les conseils qui nous ont été donnés par la France? Et l'empressement que nous avons apporté à les accepter? Et puis, de quelle manière pourrions nous agir dans l'espace de temps accordé sous la pression d'une mise en demeure et en présence d'une force navale? Il ne m'est pas donné de connaître les idées qui ont prévalues chez MM. les Représentants des Cinq Grandes Puissances, qui nous ont adressé l'ultimatum, après que nous aurions cédé aux conseils de la France. Nous croyons, cependant, pouvoir exprimer le désir de nous informer si nous nous trouvons dans la situation créée par notre adhésion aux conseils de la France, et alors nous demandons qu'on nous laisse agir librement pour remplir nos engagements, ou bien, si nous nous trouvons dans la situation créée par l'ultimatum, et alors il ne s'agit pas plus pour le Gouvernement Royal d'agir librement, mais sous la sommation d'un ultimatum et ses conséquences. Dans cette seconde éventualité nous devons prendre en considération que, non seulement le Gouvernement Royal doit agir sous une pression, mais qu'il devra affronter les dangers que le désarmement effectué dans les conditions de l'ultimatum pourrait faire naître. Si les Gouvernements dont les Représentants à Athènes ont signé l'ultimatum nous laissaient notre liberté d'action, l'honneur de notre pays et nos devoirs nous engagent à remplir loyalement les obligations que nous avons déjà spontanément acceptées.

Nr. 9126. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Billigt das Verfahren desselben betr. Ueberreichung des Ultimatums. [B. III, 264.]

Foreign Office, April 27, 1886.

Nr. 9126. England. 27. April 1886.

Sir, || I have received your telegram of yesterday's date, reporting the circumstances which led you and your colleagues to the conclusion, that the collective note should be presented to the Greek Government that afternoon.

In view of the communication which had been made to you and to the Representatives of the other Great Powers by M. Delyanni, I should have been glad if the delivery of the note could have been postponed, so as to

give Her Majesty's Government the opportunity of giving further instructions if they had desired to do so, more especially as my telegram to you of the 24th instant did not contemplate the note being presented before to-day. || But I entirely concur in your view, that it was not desirable to separate yourself from your colleagues in the matter, and I give full weight to the fact that your judgment formed on the spot, and in view of all the circumstances of the case led you to the conclusion that the course adopted was expedient: your action is therefore approved. || I am, &c. Rosebery. Nr. 9126. England. 27. April 1886.

Nr. 9127. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Paris. — Theilt den dem französischen Botschafter gegebenen Avis betreffs der von Griechenland zu befolgenden Schritte mit. [B. III, 267.]

(Der erste Theil, der nur Bekanntes enthält, ist weggelassen.)

Foreign Office, April 27, 1886.

. . . . M. Waddington asked me if I had any advice to give on the situation. || I said, that, in my opinion, the state of affairs was this: M. Delyanni, though in a manner not very direct or very gracious, had given an intimation which appeared to promise disarmament. The collective note had been presented, and we could only deal with that as an accomplished fact. I thought, that the best plan for M. Delyanni would now be to make a manly and straightforward declaration to the Powers of the intention of the Greek Government to demobilize. He might say, that they yielded to the advice of France, or assign for the decision any other suitable reason which he might prefer, so long as the terms of the declaration were explicit and free from ambiguity. || I am, &c. Rosebery. Nr. 9127. England. 27. April 1886.

Nr. 9128. **FRANKREICH.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Instruction. [G. 642.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 27 avril 1886.

Il est très important, pour prévenir toute complication ultérieure et pour que le Gouvernement grec garde entièrement le mérite de son initiative, qu'il rende effectives et notoires, sans aucun délai, les mesures de désarmement et toutes autres dispositions s'y rattachant. || Vous saurez, dans vos rapports avec vos Collègues, éviter tout ce qui pourrait amener des froissements que les derniers événements permettent jusqu'à un certain point de prévoir. Je ne puis d'ailleurs, qu'approuver le tact et l'activité que vous avez déployés dans ces circonstances délicates. C. de Freycinet. Nr. 9128. Frankreich. 27. April 1886.

Nr. 9129. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über seine an Delyannis ertheilten Rathschläge und die Verschlimmerung der Lage. [G. 644.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 27 avril 1886.

Nr. 9129. Frankreich. 27. April 1886.

Revenant sur les intentions qu'il avait manifestées hier soir, M. Delyannis est venu tout à l'heure chez moi me dire que les Puissances le replacent par leur ultimatum dans la situation de céder devant la force: or, il croit devoir, si l'ultimatum subsiste, donner sa démission. J'ai insisté fortement pour qu'il maintînt sa première pensée qui était, comme je vous l'ai dit hier soir, de constater dans sa réponse à la note que sa libre décision pacifique était prise dès la veille, et qu'il est évident qu'elle implique la démobilisation et la mise sur le pied de paix. J'ai ajouté qu'il serait alors en mesure d'attendre après cette explication ce que répondraient les Puissances. || Il ne m'a pas formellement promis l'envoi de cette réponse: en tout cas, il attendra jusqu'à demain pour la faire, afin que mes Collègues aient le temps de recevoir les directions de leurs cours. J'espère qu'elles détendront la situation. L'état des choses, excellent dimanche soir et hier, est devenu d'instant plus en instant grave depuis l'envoi de la Note et l'apparition des quatre bâtiments à Phalère*). || M. Delyannis m'a quitté pour aller chez le Roi; je l'ai prié de répéter à Sa Majesté les conseils prudents que je venais de lui faire entendre. Il m'a chargé de vous remercier de vos féliciations. Moüy.

Nr. 9130. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Ansicht Deutschlands betreffs der von Griechenland zu thuenden Schritte. [G. 644.]

(Télégramme.) Berlin, le 27 avril 1886.

Nr. 9130. Frankreich. 27. April 1886.

Je suis en mesure de vous faire connaître le point de vue adopté par le Cabinet de Berlin à l'égard des affaires grecques. || La démarche que M. Delyannis a faite auprès du Ministre français n'est pas de nature à retarder l'exécution de l'accord intervenu entre les Puissances, dont le prestige pourrait souffrir si elles laissaient durer la situation critique à laquelle elles ont entrepris de mettre fin. || L'Allemagne n'a d'autre intérêt dans cette affaire que la conservation de la paix et le maintien du respect qui est dû à toute action combinée entre les Puissances; elle est d'avis de ne renoncer à l'application du programme convenu que dans le cas, où la Grèce ne se bornerait pas à de simples promesses, mais procéderait à un commencement d'exécution par

*) Die Schiffe — ein englisches, ein deutsches, ein österreichisches und ein italienisches — waren am 27. früh 8½ Uhr in den Phaleron eingelaufen; ein russisches gleichzeitig in den Piräus. [Vgl. B. III, 263 Inclos.]

la démobilisation effective de ses troupes. Les déclarations données jusqu'ici sont ambiguës et insuffisantes*). Il résulte de cette façon d'envisager les choses que la Chancellerie allemande approuve la remise de la note collective qui a eu lieu hier soir à Athènes, et à laquelle M. de Moüy s'est abstenu de s'associer. Elle attache du prix à ce que le concert établi entre les Puissances ne se démente pas et à ce que leur pression sur la Grèce ne subisse aucun ralentissement, afin d'ôter au Cabinet d'Athènes toute possibilité de se dérober par un faux-fuyant et afin de l'empêcher de faire surgir des questions que l'Europe ne veut pas laisser mettre en discussion aujourd'hui, sous une forme ou des prétextes quelconques. Courcel. Nr. 9130. Frankreich. 27. April 1886.

Nr. 9131. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Der Zar billigt den Anschluss des russischen Gesandten in Athen an die gemeinsamen Schritte der Grossmächte. [B. III, 272.]

St. Petersburgh, April 28, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that M. de Giers has telegraphed from Livadia to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires at Athens, informing him that His Majesty the Emperor approves his conduct in joining in the ultimatum to the Greek Government, notwithstanding the communication by the Greek Foreign Minister to the Representatives of his private correspondence with the French Minister, and instructing him not to separate himself from the collective action of the Ministers. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier. Nr. 9131. England. 28. April 1886.

Nr. 9132. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Theilt die von England geforderte Erklärung Griechenlands mit und begehrt deren Annahme von Delyannis. [G. 650.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 28 avril 1886.

Les Puissances considèrent que la communication de M. Delyannis à leurs Représentants à Athènes n'a pas été suffisamment explicite. Voici textuellement ce que me fait télégraphier Lord Rosebery: „Que M. Delyannis déclare nettement et sans ambages que, *cédant aux conseils de la France* (mots sou- Nr. 9132. Frankreich. 28. April 1886.

*) Auch der englische Botschafter Malet berichtet an demselben Tage an Lord Rosebery über die Aeuserungen Bismarcks dasselbe [B. III, 265.]: The Prince regards the communication made by the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs to the French Minister as evasive and insufficient. He is of opinion, that the programme agreed upon should be carried out unless a favourable reply be returned in an official form by the Greek Government and disarmament be commenced.

Nr. 9132. Frankreich. 28. April 1886.

lignés dans l'original), il prend l'engagement de désarmer à bref délai, et je me tiens pour satisfait. L'essentiel, pour nous, est que la déclaration soit catégorique et ne laisse pas la porte ouverte à de nouvelles revendications." La conduite de M. Delyannis me paraît toute tracée. Il doit, à mon sens, s'appropriant les mots mêmes du Ministre anglais, adresser immédiatement à vos Collègues la déclaration demandée. Son amour-propre ne peut en souffrir; car il constate par là même que sa résolution était prise et son engagement de désarmer connu avant toute intervention des Puissances et indépendamment de la remise de l'ultimatum. En se maintenant, au contraire, sur le terrain de sa Note protestative, mentionnée dans votre télégramme du 27 courant, M. Delyannis replace son pays dans la fausse situation d'où nous avions réussi à le tirer et l'expose aux plus graves périls. La solution, selon nous, est dans la proclamation nette et franche de l'attitude adoptée dimanche dernier, à la suite de nos démarches, et dans l'exécution rapide des mesures que cette attitude implique.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9133. FRANKREICH. — Vertreter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Der Zar billigt das Verhalten seines Gesandten in Athen. [G. 654.]

(Télégramme.) Saint-Pétersbourg, le 28 avril 1886.

Nr. 9133. Frankreich. 28. April 1886.

L'Empereur a approuvé le Représentant de la Russie à Athènes de ne pas s'être séparé de ses Collègues et de s'être associé à la remise de l'ultimatum. M. de Vlangali incline à penser que la Déclaration remise par M. Delyannis aux Représentants des Puissances devait être conçue dans des termes trop vagues pour qu'ils aient cru pouvoir s'en contenter. J'ai fait remarquer à M. de Vlangali que si cette hypothèse explique la résolution prise par les Représentants des Puissances, elle ne la justifie pas complètement; car il aurait semblé plus naturel, en présence de la bonne volonté manifestée par le Gouvernement grec, de ne pas agir avec précipitation.

Ternaux-Compans.

Nr. 9134. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Anfrage über eine Rede Delyannis' betreffs angeblicher Versprechungen Frankreichs. [B. III, 279.]

Foreign Office, April 29, 1886.

Nr. 9134. England. 29. April 1886.

Sir, || It is stated in the public press, that the Greek Prime Minister explicitly declared to a deputation which waited on him yesterday that he had given no promise of disarmament to France or to any other Power; that Greece had accepted French mediation on condition of an early settle-

ment of the Greek question, and that unless the claims of Greece were satisfied very shortly, the Government would declare war. || I have requested you, by telegraph, to inform me whether it is true that M. Delyanni used the language attributed to him. || I am, &c.

Nr. 9134. England. 29. April 1886.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9135. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Instruction. [B. III, 280.]

Foreign Office, April 29, 1886.

Sir, || I have received your telegram of the 28th instant, reporting statements said to have been made by the Greek Prime Minister as to the negotiations between himself and the French Minister and his attitude towards the Five Powers, and informing me that your colleagues have received from their Governments full approval for the course they have pursued in regard to the presentation of the collective note sent in on the 26th instant. || Her Majesty's Government would have been glad if M. Delyanni's communication could have been referred to the Powers before the ultimatum was presented to the Greek Government, so as to avoid any possible appearance of precipitate action or want of consideration for the susceptibilities of the Greek Government. But the paramount consideration is, that the concerted action of Europe should be maintained, and I have to convey to you the approval of your action by Her Majesty's Government. They consider, that, in view of the unanimous agreement of your colleagues, you did right in joining in the immediate presentation of the note, and they note that this decision has received further justification by the course of subsequent events, and the public declarations by M. Delyanni which have appeared in the press. || I am, &c.

Nr. 9135. England. 29. April 1886.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9136. GRIECHENLAND. — Antwort auf das Ultimatum der 5 Mächte. [B. I, 2; B. III, 344; Gr. 108; G. 692 Auszug.]

Athènes, le 17/29 avril 1886.

Le soussigné, président du conseil, ministre des affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note collective que Leurs Excellences les envoyés extraordinaires, etc., etc., ont bien voulu lui communiquer le 14/26 avril. || Le gouvernement royal, en se référant à sa note identique du 14/26 avril, adressée à Leurs Excellences et à M. le chargé d'affaires de Russie, avant la remise de leur note collective du même jour, croit devoir ajouter l'explication suivante:

Nr. 9136. Griechenland. 29. April 1886.

Le gouvernement royal ayant adhéré aux conseils de la France, d'après la note identique précitée, adressée à Leurs Excellences avant la remise de

Nr. 9136. Griechenland. 29. April 1886.

la note collective du 14/26 avril, a donné par cette adhésion l'assurance solennelle que la Grèce ne troublera pas la paix, conformément au désir des grandes puissances. La conséquence de cette adhésion est que la Grèce ne gardera pas sous les drapeaux l'effectif actuel de l'armée. Conséquemment, son gouvernement procédera à la réduction graduelle de cet effectif dans les délais imposés par la prudence indispensable dans une pareille opération. || A la suite de ces explications, le gouvernement royal aime à espérer que la note collective du 14/26 avril sera considérée comme étant sans objet.

Le président du conseil, ministre des affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi de Hellènes, a eu l'honneur d'envoyer un exemplaire identique de la présente note à Leurs Excellences les ministres, etc., etc. || Veuillez agréer, etc.

Th. P. Délyannis.

Nr. 9137. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Bericht über eine Besprechung mit dem griechischen Gesandten. [B. III, 290.]

Foreign Office, April 30, 1886.

Nr. 9137. England. 30. April 1886.

Sir, || The Greek Minister called upon me to-day and read me a telegram which he had just received from M. Delyanni, containing the reply of the Greek Government to the collective note. I inclose a copy of this paper which he left with me.

M. Gennadius inquired what view I took of this communication. || I said, that it was difficult at a moment's notice to give an opinion. There was one question which suggested itself to me, and that was, whether the assurances contained in the reply corresponded with the passage in the collective note which I showed to him, viz.:— "En conséquence, les Soussignés, par ordre de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, invitent le Cabinet d'Athènes à mettre l'armée Hellénique sur le pied de paix dans le plus bref délai; et à leur donner l'assurance, dans le cours d'une semaine à dater de la présente déclaration, que des ordres conformes ont été promulgués." || M. Gennadius replied, that, in his opinion, the reply went even beyond what was required by the passage in question. || I said, that it might be possible to put that construction upon it, but that we had to satisfy Turkey and to enable the Porte to disarm as soon as possible. || M. Gennadius observed, that the strain on Greece of her present armaments was so heavy that it was needless to explain that after the deliberate promise made in M. Delyanni's telegram of to-day it would be impracticable for the Greek Government to keep up the army on its present footing. || I said, that the speech which M. Delyanni was reported to have made to a deputation at Athens had greatly complicated the position, and was an element in the consideration of the case. I remarked, further, that I could not profess to admire either the style or the form of the communication, but

that I would consult the other Governments on the course to be pursued, and he might be quite sure that Her Majesty's Government would view the situation in a generous and conciliatory spirit. || I am, &c.

Nr. 9137. England. 30. April 1886.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9138. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. Instruction. [G. 662.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 30 avril 1886.

Nr. 9138. Frankreich. 30. April 1886.

Je vous prie de vouloir bien provoquer d'urgence de M. Delyannis une explication catégorique. Sans lui lire le télégramme même de M. Waddington *) et sans mettre en avant la personne de Lord Rosebery, vous l'entretiendrez des faits susmentionnés. Vous protesterez énergiquement contre le carcactère attribué à nos démarches. Vous lui rappellerez que nous n'avons pris envers la Grèce aucun engagement quelconque ni accepté aucune espèce de condition. Vous vous êtes borné à lui donner des assurances générales de notre bon vouloir, assurances qui étaient, d'ailleurs, superflues; car il ne pouvait en douter. Vous apprécierez dans quelle mesure il conviendrait de donner une certaine publicité à votre protestation et sous quelle forme vous pourriez rectifier les fausses allégations qui se produisent afin d'en arrêter les fâcheux effets.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9139. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Delyannis erklärt alle Zeitungsnachrichten über angeblich von ihm gethane Aeusserungen betreffs französischer Verpflichtungen für falsch und wird sie dementiren. [G. 667.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 1er mai 1886.

Nr. 9139. Frankreich. 1. Mai 1886.

J'ai appelé l'attention de M. Delyannis sur la fâcheuse impression que produisaient les faux bruits répandus par les agences et par les journaux. Je lui ai exprimé avec la plus grande netteté la necessité absolue d'y mettre un terme et de ne pas laisser dénaturer l'attitude de la France et la sienne, et j'ai protesté énergiquement contre des rumeurs aussi notoirement contraires à la vérité. || Il m'a dit que déjà il avait télégraphié au Chargé d'Affaires de Grèce à Londres de démentir auprès de lord Rosebery le prétendu discours qu'il aurait adressé à une deputation: il affirme n'en avoir reçu aucune et n'avoir jamais tenu le langage que l'on lui prête. Quant à la circulaire aux Préfets, il maintient qu'elle ne contient à aucun degré ce qu'on lui attribue

*) Dasselbe enthielt u. a. die Bestätigung der Rede Delyannis' über angebliche Versprechungen Frankreichs. Vgl. Nr. 9135.

Nr. 9139. Frankreich. 1. Mai 1886.

et que le Ministre de l'intérieur a fait mention seulement de l'adhésion aux conseils d'une Puissance amie. Il va ce soir, m'a-t-il dit, télégraphier au Chargé d'affaires de Grèce à Londres de démentir ce nouveau bruit. || Quant à nous, j'ai à peine eu besoin de lui rappeler que nous n'avions pris aucun engagement quelconque, qu'il n'avait été pas un instant question de médiation, que nulle condition ne nous avait été posée. Il a déclaré que jamais semblable fait ne s'était produit, et, quand je lui ai rappelé que nous n'avions donné que des assurances de bon vouloir générales, il a pleinement reconnu l'exactitude de cette affirmation en se bornant à s'en référer aux termes du télégramme de Votre Excellence dont je lui ai donné lecture et laissé copie, sur votre ordre, le 23 avril. || En ce qui concerne le désarmement, il a reconnu, qu'en effet, dans sa pensée, il était implicitement admis dans son adhésion à nos conseils et que s'il avait plus tard évité d'employer ce terme, c'était à la suite de l'ultimatum.

Il attribue à des manoeuvres de ses adversaires tous les faux bruits qui remplissent les journaux et défraient les agences, et il prie Votre Excellence de ne pas en prendre souci. || Sur mon observation que, néanmoins, il était bon de démentir des allégations aussi fâcheuses, il m'a dit qu'il enverrait, ce soir, une indication en ce sens au journal la *Proïa*.

J'ai profité de cet entretien pour parler à M. Delyannis du désarmement. Il m'a dit qu'aussitôt les complications actuelles réglées, il licencierait d'abord tous les exemptés, soutiens de famille, etc., puis immédiatement après les classes de réserve, deux par deux, en prenant toutes les mesures nécessaires pour éviter tout désordre. Je l'ai vivement encouragé à procéder le plus rapidement possible.

Moüy.

Nr. 9140. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Dringt von neuem auf schleunigen Beginn der Abrüstung Griechenlands. [G. 673.]

(Télégramme.)

Paris, le 1er mai 1886.

Nr. 9140. Frankreich. 1. Mai 1886.

Veuillez remercier M. Delyannis de la franchise et de la netteté des explications amicales qu'il vous a fournies et dont me rend compte votre télégramme du 1er courant. || Quant aux mesures de désarmement, je persiste à penser qu'elles ne sauraient être rendues effectives trop tôt. Ce serait une grande faute, selon nous, de subordonner l'exécution au règlement des complications actuelles. C'est au contraire en procédant à l'exécution qu'on fera disparaître ces complications. Tant que les puissances n'apercevront pas un commencement de désarmement effectif, il est à craindre qu'elles n'accentuent leur pression et n'augmentent par suite la difficulté même contre laquelle se heurte, d'après M. Delyannis, la mise en oeuvre de la démobilisation. Insistez donc très énergiquement auprès de lui dans l'intérêt supérieur de son pays,

pour qu'il ne diffère pas d'une heure les premières mesures de désarmement et cela nonobstant tous les incidents qui peuvent se produire autour de lui. C'est un ami sincère de la Grèce qui se permet de lui donner ce conseil.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9140. Frankreich. 1. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9141. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Die Pforte weist jede Concession an Griechenland entschieden zurück. [B. III, 300.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 1er Mai, 1886.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique ne se contente seulement pas de faire accroire à la population par les organes de la presse et autres moyens qu'il espère arriver à un arrangement de la question par la voie diplomatique, mais encore d'après ce, qui nous revient, il annonce tout récemment aux Préfets du Royaume que le Gouvernement Hellénique, appréciant, comme il convient, les conseils et les représentations à lui adressés par la France, n'a pas hésité à y adhérer, "persuadé d'avance que la solution ultérieure de la question nationale" trouvera auprès du Gouvernement Français un chaleureux défenseur, et que les aspirations nationales auront à se prévaloir à bon droit des dispositions sympathiques des autres Puissances. || Ce langage, qui implique l'évidence des espérances pour des concessions à obtenir, et qui est de nature à inculquer dans les esprits en Grèce des idées fausses et chimériques par rapport aux mesures efficaces que les Puissances ont bien voulu prendre pour sauvegarder la paix, exige un résultat prompt et énergique de l'action exercée à Athènes, faute de quoi les interprétations erronées pourraient se développer de plus en plus, et provoquer encore d'autres incidents imprévus pouvant compliquer la tâche entreprise. || Pour nous, je ne saurais assez le répéter, nous sommes plus que jamais décidé à ne faire aucune concession de quelque nature que ce soit après surtout les sacrifices gratuits que nous nous sommes imposés, et la longanimité dont nous avons fait preuve devant l'attitude provocatrice de la Grèce. Aussi, avons-nous le ferme espoir que les Puissances, dans leur haute sagesse, voudront bien persévérer dans la voie qu'elles se sont tracée, et que dans l'intérêt de notre juste cause, qui est aussi la leur, elles laisseront aux mesures énergiques qu'elles viennent de prendre suivre leurs cours. || En signalant ce qui précède à l'attention particulière de M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, vous voudrez bien également communiquer à son Excellence cette présente dépêche.

Nr. 9141. Türkei. 1. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9142. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Vorschlag einer Antwort der Grossmächte auf die griechische Note. [B. III, 301.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, May 2, 1886, 4·10 P.M.

Nr. 9142. England. 2. Mai 1886.

I am sending the following telegram to Her Majesty's Ambassadors at Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Rome, St. Petersburgh and Constantinople:—

"Although the note of the Greek Government is unsatisfactory in form, it appears to offer a possible basis for arrangement if it could be supplemented by detailed written assurances as to the intended disarmament. The Powers might consent to keep such assurances secret for two or three weeks, for the purpose of enabling the Greek Government to tide over possible risk from popular agitation."

If the secret assurances given by the Greek Government should be satisfactory, I should propose to the Powers to send a reply to the following effect:—

"The Undersigned, &c., have received and communicated to their Governments the note of M. Delyanni of the 17th (29th) April, in reply to the collective note which they had the honour to addres to his Excellency on the 26th. || The Undersigned have the honour to inform his Excellency, in reply, that their Governments have taken note of the declaration contained in M. Delyanni's communication, that the Hellenic Government considers itself to have given a solemn assurance that, in conformity with the wishes of the Great Powers, Greece will not disturb the peace, that in consequence Greece will not retain under the flag the present effective force of the army, and that the Hellenic Government will proceed to the reduction of that force in the period dictated by the prudence indispensable for such an operation. || The Undersigned are charged to state, that their Governments understand the assurances thus given by the Hellenic Government as a compliance with the invitation contained in the note of the 26th April, and are ready to accept them in that sense. They therefore hope to receive from his Excellency a prompt communication of the orders which have been issued in conformity with those assurances."

Nr. 9143. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Delyannis verweigert jedes Nachgeben, solange das Ultimatum aufrecht erhalten wird. [G. 679.]

(Télégramme.) Athènes, le 2 mai 1886.

Nr. 9143. Frankreich. 2. Mai 1886.

Tout en m'exprimant sa haute gratitude envers Votre Excellence, M. Delyannis maintient, malgré mes vives instances, que, tant qu'il sera sous le coup de l'ultimatum, il ne peut prendre aucune mesure d'exécution. Je lui ai objecté à plusieurs reprises que ces premières mesures ne seraient que la consé-

quence naturelle de son adhésion antérieure à l'ultimatum. Il persiste à soutenir que l'ultimatum ne lui laisse plus sa liberté d'action. J'ai maintenu notre conseil avec la plus grande énergie, mais en vain. Le journal inspiré par M. Tricoupi déclare ce matin que l'opposition, si elle était au pouvoir, non seulement ne donnerait aucune explication complémentaire, mais se refuserait même à sanctionner la réponse donnée par M. Delyannis aux puissances.

Nr. 9143. Frankreich. 2. Mai 1886.

Moüy.

Nr. 9144. FRANKREICH. — Botschafter in London an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Stellung der Mächte zu der griechischen Note. [G. 676.]

(Télégramme.)

Londres, le 2 mai 1886.

Lord Rosebery vient de me dire que son avis personnel serait d'accepter la Note comme base d'un arrangement, sauf à demander un engagement plus explicite et peut-être une indication de délai pour le désarmement; il a ajouté qu'un commencement d'exécution ferait le meilleur effet. Il n'a pas encore reçu les réponses des différentes Puissances, sauf celle de l'Italie, qui trouve la Note peu satisfaisante. Lord Rosebery est persuadé que la Russie suivra la même ligne modérée que l'Angleterre. Le Comte de Hatzfeldt critique vivement les mots *graduellement* et *avec prudence* et se montre peu favorable; il voudrait qu'on indiquât un délai pour le désarmement, mais il n'a pas encore reçu les instructions de son Gouvernement. L'Ambassadeur de Turquie insiste pour un délai très court. Le Comte Karoly paraît être de l'avis de Lord Rosebery et croit que l'affaire se terminera très prochainement; mais il n'a pas reçu encore la réponse de l'Autriche. J'ai fait connaître à Lord Rosebery, en me servant à peu près des expressions que vous avez employées dans votre entretien avec le Comte Hoyos, la substance de vos instructions récentes à M. de Moüy. Il en a été très content, et je lui ai fait remarquer qu'en fin de compte, lui et vous, vous arriviez à tenir à peu près le même langage et à envisager la situation presque de la même façon. Il m'a dit qu'il était décidé à ne rien faire, sans y être absolument forcé, qui puisse humilier les Grecs.

Nr. 9144. Frankreich. 2. Mai 1886.

Waddington.

Nr. 9145. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Einwendungen Kálnokys gegen Roseberys Vorschläge. [B. III, 305.]

(Extract.)

Vienna, May 3, 1886.

I had the honour to receive yesterday afternoon your Lordship's telegram of that day, stating that the Greek note, though unsatisfactory in form, appears to contain a possible basis if it could be supplemented by detailed written

Nr. 9145. England. 3. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9145. England. 3. Mai 1886.

assurances as to disarmament, and suggesting that such assurances might be kept secret for two or three weeks to enable the Greek Government to tide over possible popular excitement.

I immediately wrote, unofficially, to Count Kálnoky in the sense of this telegram, and called upon his Excellency this morning to ascertain his views upon the communication I had made to him. || His Excellency then read to me the telegrams he had addressed to and received from Count Károlyi upon this subject, from which it appeared that there is an agreement between your Lordship's and his Excellency's views in regard to the course which is to be pursued respecting the answer of the Greek Government to the collective note; that is to say, that act should be taken of the declaration which it contains that Greece will not disturb peace, and will reduce the present strength of her land forces, but that a further note should be sent in by the Representatives of the Powers, stating that their Governments do not consider this declaration sufficiently satisfactory, and, consequently, request further assurances from the Greek Government to the effect that they will at once and within the shortest possible period take measures for placing the army upon a peace footing. || His Excellency, however, expressed strong objection to the idea of keeping the further assurances to be obtained from Greek Government secret, as he considers that it would be derogatory to the Great Powers, and detrimental to their influence in any future question which may arise, to recede from the position they have taken up towards Greece, without having received some further public satisfaction to their demands than that contained in the answer already returned by the Greek Government.

Count Kálnoky informed me that, he had acquainted the Austrian Minister in Athens that communications were taking place between the Powers as to some further representation to be addressed to the Greek Government, and had instructed him, in the event of a proposal being made to address a note in the sense agreed upon, to join his colleagues in signing it. || Your Lordship is, I know, aware that Count Kálnoky has himself proposed a form of note to the different Powers, and I understood him to say that he had received affirmative replies to it from Italy and Russia, and that the French Government entirely approved the course suggested in it.

Nr. 9146. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. Instruction. — [B. III, 306.]

Foreign Office, May 3, 1886.

Nr. 9146. England. 3. Mai 1886.

Sir, || On the 1st instant I suggested, confidentially, to the Greek Government, through their Representative here, that they should spontaneously supplement their answer to the collective note of the 26th ultimo by definitive and detailed assurances, in writing, as to the course of disarmament. Such assu-

rances might, I said, be kept secret for a space of two or three weeks, if thought necessary, in order to avoid any risk of popular effervescence. || As I have received no reply to this suggestion, which I communicated, confidentially, to Her Majesty's Representatives at the Courts of the Five Powers, the proposal must now be considered to have lapsed. Her Majesty's Government have exhausted every method which they can devise for extricating the Greek Government from the position in which they have placed themselves, and I now have to authorize you to propose to your colleagues to reply to M. Delyanni to the effect that you take note of the peaceful assurances of the Greek Government, but that those assurances are not sufficiently precise to effect the objects in view, and that you must therefore ask for further explanations. || If the explanations afforded in reply to this communication should be of a doubtful nature, you will refer them to Her Majesty's Government for consideration. Should they, on the other hand, be satisfactory, you will accept them and inform me. Should no explanations be forthcoming, you will repair on board one of Her Majesty's ships and proceed to Malta, handing over the charge of Her Majesty's Legation to Mr. Baring, to whom further instructions will then be sent by Her Majesty's Government. || I have forwarded a copy of this despatch, by telegraph, to Her Majesty's Representatives at the Courts of the four other Powers. || I am, &c. Rosebery.

Nr. 9146. England. 3. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9147. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Die in Vorbereitung begriffene Note der Grossmächte bietet Delyannis Gelegenheit zu ehrenvollem Nachgeben. [G. 688.]

(Der erste Theil des Stückes, welcher nur eine Wiedergabe des Inhalts von Nr. 9142 ist, ist weggelassen.)

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 4 mai 1886.

.... A mon sens, il s'offre là une chance heureuse pour M. Delyannis de sortir de l'impasse dans laquelle il est depuis huit jours. Le soin même qu'on semble vouloir prendre, en cette occurrence, de ne pas mettre en jeu la dignité de la Grèce lui permet de faire une concession honorable et de détourner ainsi les malheurs prêts à fondre sur son pays. Car Lord Lyons m'a entretenu ensuite des mesures coercitives qui succéderont à l'embarquement des Agents, et ces mesures s'exécuteront, il n'en faut pas douter. || Il y a là pour vous une nouvelle occasion d'exercer votre légitime influence dans le sens des intérêts de la Grèce et du maintien de la paix générale*).

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9147. Frankreich. 4. Mai 1886.

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*) Die Gesandten der übrigen Mächte in Athen hatten den französischen über ihre weiteren Absichten ganz im Dunkeln gelassen. De Moüy schreibt am 5. hierüber an

Nr. 9148. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Instruction. [G. 686.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 4 mai 1886.

Nr. 9148. Frankreich. 4. Mai 1886.

Si les Représentants des Puissances quittaient Athènes, vous n'auriez pas à les suivre. Toutefois, si vous jugiez qu'une absence momentanée fût opportune, vous pourriez m'en référer. || En ce qui concerne, au contraire, nos missions militaire et navale, le Gouvernement estime qu'elles devront cesser leurs fonctions aussitôt après la rupture des relations diplomatiques des Puissances avec la Grèce. Il importe, en effet, que nous n'ayons pas l'air de participer à la résistance. Au surplus, les termes mêmes des engagements de ces missions prévoient une semblable éventualité. M. Delyannis ne se méprendra pas sur les motifs qui nous font agir, et vous donnerez des ordres en conséquence aux Chefs de ces missions pour que la mesure que je vous indique soit exécutée sans retard. || Vous apprécierez, d'ailleurs, la convenance de mettre vos Collègues au courant de ces dispositions.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9149. DIE GROSSMÄCHTE AUSSER FRANKREICH. — Collectivnote an Griechenland. — Forderung bestimmter Erklärungen über die Abrüstung. [B. I, 3; B. III, 336, 365; Gr. 114.]

Nr. 9149. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 6. Mai 1886.

Les Soussignés, Envoyés Extraordinaires et Ministres Plénipotentiaires d'Italie, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie et de la Grande-Bretagne, et le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, sont chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs d'accuser réception à son Excellence M. Delyanni, Président du Conseil des Ministres, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, de la note qu'il leur a fait l'honneur de leur adresser en date du 17 (29) Avril, et faire savoir à son Excellence que, tout en prenant acte des assurances pacifiques du Cabinet d'Athènes, ces assurances ne paraissent pas à leurs Gouvernements suffisamment précises pour atteindre le but désiré. Les Soussignés ont en conséquence reçu l'ordre d'inviter son Excellence M. Delyanni à leur donner des explications plus nettes dans le courant de la journée. || Les Soussignés saisissent, &c.

Athènes, le 6 Mai, 1886.

F. Curtopassi. — von Brincken. — Trauttenberg. — H. Rumbold. — G. Bakhmétieff.

Freycinet [G. 692]: Pendant ce temps, les délais de l'ultimatum arrivaient à leur terme. Mes Collègues, dans les conversations que j'ai eu soin d'avoir avec chacun d'eux, se renfermaient dans une réserve complète sur les intentions de leurs Gouvernements; ce fut par le bruit public que j'appris qu'il était question de leur prochain départ.

Nr. 9150. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Gesandten der Grossmächte ausser Frankreich in Athen. — Antwort auf die Collectivnote, Ablehnung der geforderten Erklärungen. [B. I, 4; B. III, 336, 366; Gr. 114.]

Athènes, le 24 Avril (6 Mai) 1886.

Nr. 9150. Griechenland. 6. Mai 1886.

Le Soussigné, Président du Conseil des Ministres et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a l'honneur d'accuser réception à leurs Excellences les Envoyés Extraordinaires et Ministres Plénipotentiaires d'Italie, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie et de la Grande-Bretagne, et à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, de la note qu'ils lui ont fait l'honneur de lui adresser en date du 24 Avril (6 Mai), par laquelle ils lui font savoir que, tout en prenant acte des assurances pacifiques du Cabinet d'Athènes, ces assurances ne paraissent pas à leurs Gouvernements suffisamment précises pour atteindre le but désiré, et qu'en conséquence leurs Excellences ont reçu l'ordre d'inviter le Président du Conseil des Ministres et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères à leur donner des explications plus nettes dans le courant de la journée. || Le Gouvernement Royal ayant déjà expliqué la conséquence de la modification de sa politique par sa note identique du 17 (29) Avril à leurs Excellences les Envoyés Extraordinaires et Ministres Plénipotentiaires d'Italie, d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie et de la Grande Bretagne, et M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie, regrette que ses explications aient été considérées comme insuffisantes; mais il ne peut que se référer à sa note précitée. Le Président du Conseil des Ministres et Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes a eu l'honneur d'envoyer un exemplaire identique de la présente note à leurs Excellences, &c. || Le Soussigné saisit, &c.

Th. P. Delyanni.

Nr. 9151. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über einen neuen vergeblichen Versuch, Delyannis zum Nachgeben gegen die Grossmächte zu bewegen. [G. 694.]

(Télégramme.)

Athènes, le 6 mai 1886.

Nr. 9151. Frankreich. 6. Mai 1886.

Le Gouvernement grec a reçu ce matin la note des Puissances. J'ai vu, sur-le-champ, M. Delyannis et je l'ai adjuré de donner une réponse satisfaisante. || J'ai invoqué vos conseils décisifs, je lui ai même lu le passage le plus significatif de votre dernier télégramme. Je lui ai exposé les périls de la situation, le devoir qui s'impose à lui de sauver son pays de cette crise. Je lui ai rappelé qu'on ne lui demandait pas une démarche nouvelle, mais le simple éclaircissement de ses déclarations antérieures et que, pour une question

Nr. 9151. Frankreich. 6. Mai 1886.

de faux point d'honneur, il ne lui était pas permis de compromettre le présent et l'avenir de la Grèce, de décourager même ses meilleurs amis. || Tout a été inutile. Le Président du Conseil m'a déclaré que, sans l'ultimatum et l'escadre, il était prêt à donner toutes les explications, mais que la dignité de la Grèce ne lui permettait pas de céder devant la violence et d'admettre une ingérence étrangère. Il est profondément blessé d'ailleurs, m'a-t-il dit, par la défiance que les Puissances témoignent au Gouvernement grec. || La note de mes Collègues *l'invitant* à donner les explications requises *dans la journée*, il la considère comme aggravant l'ultimatum. Moüy.

Nr. 9152. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Bericht über eine Unterredung mit dem griechischen Gesandten in London über die griechische Politik. [B. III, 343].

Foreign Office, May 7, 1886.

Nr. 9152. England. 7. Mai 1886.

Sir, || The Greek Minister called upon me to-day, and read to me the correct text of a telegram which he had brought to me on the 4th instant, but had previously been unable to decypher in its entirety. || The message covered four sheets of foolscap paper closely written, and repeated over and over again the proposition, that the Greek Government had been deprived of its liberty of action by the presentation of the collective note of the 26th ultimo, and had therefore been unable to carry into effect its purpose of disarmament.

I said to M. Gennadius, in reply, that I regretted that M. Delyanni had not authorized him to leave a copy of the telegram with me, because its great length and complexity rendered it difficult to carry its contents correctly in the memory. But I would venture to make one or two remarks upon it, which I would beg him to convey to M. Delyanni. || In the first place, I could not admit the argument, put forward by his Excellency, that a small State could not afford those concessions to just and friendly advice which might with propriety be made by a Great Power. A small State ought to be guided by the same principles as a great State, for in the view of international law they stood on the same level. I could not accept the doctrine that a small country was unable, on account of its limited extent, to do what would be right in the case of a great country, for it struck at the root of that self-respect and that moral dignity which alone could raise a small State to an equality with Great Powers. || In the next place, I pointed out that I could not admit that the liberty of action of the Government of Greece had only become circumscribed since the presentation of the collective note of the 26th ultimo. As a matter of fact, the action of Greece had been absolutely limited by the declaration of the Powers of the 25th January, that a naval attack by Greece upon Turkey would not be permitted by them. The question,

therefore, of the limitation of the free action of the Greek Government by the last collective note was only one of degree, and it was futile to say that it was this which had compelled the Greek Government to desist from the peaceable course of policy upon which it had resolved. || Thirdly, I ventured to point out, that the assurance given by M. Delyanni to the French Minister, which he had described as sufficient, was in fact wholly inadequate. It was not any promise or pledge to the Five Powers, but an unofficial intimation made to the Representative of another Government. This was an informality of which I should not have complained had the substance of the note been precise and explicit, but as a matter of fact it was not so. It did not enable us to offer to Turkey any guarantee that she might relieve herself of the great strain of her armaments which had been imposed upon her by the action of Greece. There was nothing in the assurances given by M. Delyanni which would make it possible for the Porte to make definitive arrangements for disarming within a certain period.

Nr. 9152. England. 7. Mai 1886.

Having said this much on the subject of M. Delyanni's message, I added that I wished to make one observation which was personal to myself. M. Delyanni had alluded to me in grateful terms as a Phil-Hellene. I believed that I deserved the name, and for the three months which had elapsed since I had been in office I had laboured daily and hourly to avert from Greece the consequences of the infatuated policy on which the Government seemed now determined to embark. I would not examine the propriety of a policy which neglected and set at nought the advice of all those Powers by whom Greece had been so conspicuously befriended in the past, nor would I say anything of the wisdom of a course which alienated and estranged those Governments upon whose good-will the future of Greece must so largely depend. But I would express my regret as a Phil-Hellene, that the Government of Greece should have alienated so many warm sympathies, and that they should have adopted a line of action which, leaving all question of the Powers out of account, must have so ruinous an effect upon her material condition in the present and for many years to come.

M. Gennadius promised to communicate these observations to M. Delyanni.

I am, &c. Rosebery.

Nr. 9153. DIE GROSSMÄCHTE AUSSER FRANKREICH. — Collectivnote an Griechenland. — Ankündigung der Blokade. [B. I, 5; B. IV, 9; Gr. 116.]

Les Soussignés, Représentants d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de la Grande-Bretagne, d'Italie et de Russie, sont chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs d'adresser au Cabinet d'Athènes la communication suivante:—

Nr. 9153. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 8. Mai 1886.

La réponse du Cabinet d'Athènes à la note collective du 26 Avril n'étant

Nr. 9153. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 8. Mai 1886.

pas de nature à donner satisfaction aux Puissances, les Gouvernements précités ont donné l'ordre aux Commandants de leurs escadres réunies d'établir un blocus des côtes de la Grèce contre tout navire sous pavillon grec. || Ce blocus deviendra effectif à partir de la date de la présente déclaration et s'étendra depuis le Cap Malea jusqu'au Cap Colonna et de là jusqu'à la frontière septentrionale de Grèce en comprenant l'Ile d'Eubée. Elle comprendra aussi sur la côte occidentale l'entrée du Golfe de Corinthe. || Tout navire sous pavillon Grec qui tenterait de violer ce blocus s'exposerait à être détenu.

Athènes, le 8 Mai, 1886.

Leyden. Velics. Walter Baring.
Rossi Toesca. G. Bakhméteff.

Nr. 9154. FRANKREICH. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Instruction. [G. 702.]

(Télégramme.) Paris, le 8 mai 1886.

Nr. 9154. Frankreich. 8. Mai 1886.

Dans la situation présente, évitez autant que possible d'avoir des entrevues directes avec les Ministres de Sa Majesté. Il ne faut pas que, durant cette crise, vous ayez l'apparence d'être le conseiller du Gouvernement hellénique.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9155. ENGLAND. — Consul in Volo an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die kriegerische Stimmung des griechischen Heeres in Thessalien. [B. IV, 24.]

(Extract.) Volo, May 9, 1886.

Nr. 9155. England. 9. Mai 1886.

I have the honour to report, that the prospect of troubles on the frontier between the contending forces appears imminent. || The announcement made by official placards, that the Government had acceded to the French proposition, and that the disarmament of the last three classes was contemplated, was sullenly received by the military element, and its non-acceptance by the Powers was succeeded immediately by further warlike preparations throughout the province. All available troops and guns in this and other towns were hastily pushed on by rail to the front; the whole staff of army surgeons, hitherto stationed here, also left, and every means of transport requisitioned for the conveyance of military stores of all sorts. Reports from Larissa and Turnovo confirm a similar state of things, and indicate the imminence of the danger of a conflict taking place, the more so from the now narrowed space between the two forces. Reports from the front stated, that there had been a concentration on the Turkish side, in the direction of Turnovo, calling for a similar move on this side, thus restricting it still more. It was further

reported, that the Turkish Commander-in-chief had intimated that if the Greeks did not accede to the wishes of Europe he would march his forces into Thessaly. || Whatever degree of truth these reports contained, colour was given to them by the hasty preparations made by the civil and military authorities in the towns, and an agitation bordering on alarm was created. The military, and those who clamour for war, were elated, for it is repeatedly stated that the desire is that Turkey should first break the peace, as it would relieve the Greeks of a struggle in difficult mountain passes, and afford them *prima facie* evidence of right on their side. || I have just heard, that arms are being distributed to the inhabitants of Larissa, and it is proposed to do the same here.

Nr. 9155. England. 9. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9156. FRANKREICH. — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Antwort Griechenlands auf die Abberufung der französischen Offiziere. [G. 711.]

Athènes, le 9 mai 1886.

Je reçois la réponse suivante à ma lettre relative aux missions: „Bien que la Grèce ne se trouve en guerre déclarée avec aucune Puissance, toutefois elle ne peut qu'apprécier la haute convenance des motifs qui inspirent la décision du Cabinet de Paris de suspendre momentanément la continuation du service des officiers français en Grèce. La valeur hautement appréciée de ces officiers est faite pour augmenter les regrets du Gouvernement hellénique en cette circonstance." Moüy.

Nr. 9156. Frankreich. 9. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9157. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Beschwerde über griechische Kriegspläne. [B. III, 353; G. 720.]

(Nach der Ausfertigung an den Botschafter in London.)

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 9 Mai 1886.

L'activité de plus en plus grande que la Grèce déploie dans l'envoi continuel de troupes vers nos frontières est de notoriété publique. Une mesure bien autrement grave vient se joindre à cette recrudescence d'effort et de provocation à notre égard. Nous venons, en effet, d'apprendre de source autorisée qu'une partie des troupes régulières Helléniques est transformée en bandes destinées à faire irruption par groupes isolés sur notre territoire dans le but évident d'y commettre des déprédations de toute sorte et d'ouvrir ainsi un vaste champ de conflit.*) Des manœuvres et agissements de cette nature, dont

Nr. 9157. Türkei. 9. Mai 1886.

*) Am 12. Mai erklärt der neue griechische Minister des Auswärtigen, Luriotis, in einem Circular an die Gesandten bei den Mächten diese Nachrichten der Pforte als jeder Begründung entbehrend: Griechenland habe inzwischen die wirksamsten Maassregeln getroffen, um jede Friedensstörung an der Grenze zu verhüten. [B. III, 369.]

Nr. 9157. Türkei. 9. Mai 1886.

les conséquences désastreuses n'ont pas besoin de preuves, ne sauraient échapper à l'attention sérieuse des Puissances. Nous sommes certes en mesure de parer à toute éventualité; mais nous voulons en même temps faire ressortir aux yeux de tous qu'un tel état de choses, que dans notre désir sincère pour le maintien de la paix nous avons tenu à prévenir, n'est pas créé par nous, qu'il revêt un caractère accentué d'hostilité contre l'Empire, et qu'il ne tend à rien moins qu'à préjudicier nos droits et à compromettre l'intérêt général. || Vous aurez soin de signaler ces faits et considérations au Gouvernement près duquel vous êtes accrédité, de manière qu'aucune équivoque ne puisse subsister dans l'appréciation des actes des deux États voisins, et vous voudrez bien remettre une copie de la présente dépêche à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Nr. 9158. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über eine Volkskundgebung in Athen und die vom griechischen Ministerpräsidenten dabei gehaltene Rede. [B. IV, 26.]

(Extract.)

Athens, May 10, 1886.

Nr. 9158. England. 10. Mai 1886.

With reference to my telegram of to-day's date, I have now the honour to inclose a translation of the Prime Minister's speech. || A the meeting which was held in the square, and which was numerously attended, two speeches were made, and Resolutions passed to the following effect:—

"The people of Athens and of the Piraeus, giving expression to the opinion of the entire Greek nation, having met to express their indignation at what is taking place, have resolved:— (1) That they disapprove of the postponement of war, and consider that inaction has brought about the present condition of affairs. (2) They deprecate any manifestation of party opinion as fettering the action of the Government. (3) They express their indignation at the interference of foreigners, and appeal to the consciences of nations against the wrong done to the country. (4) They declare to the King and to the Government, that war is the only remedy; the whole population must be armed, ant the King must put himself at the head of the army. In case of need, the seat of Government must be transferred to Larissa, and even, if necessary, to the mountains."

These Resolutions were taken to the Prime Minister, who replied in the speech I alluded to above. || After Leaving the Prime Minister's house the crowd proceeded to that of M. Tricoupi, and raised cries for him to come out. They were told he was absent, upon which there was a considerable amount of hooting, and at one moment it looked as if a disturbance might arise. Everything, however, went off quietly, and the crowd dispersed. || Later in the afternoon it was reported, that the Prime Minister had tendered his resignation

to the King. Nothing was, however, known as to the attitude of His Majesty. || I may here mention that yesterday's demonstration was no doubt organized by the supporters of the Prime Minister. The Mayor of the Piraeus, who is one of his most faithful adherents, took a leading part in getting it up, and the Athenian crowd was swelled by a large contingent which came up from the Piraeus.

Inclosure.

Speech delivered by M. Delyanni from his balcony on the 9th May, 1886.

(Translation.)

The Committee which you selected read to me the Resolution passed by the people of Athens and the Piraeus, and I listened to it with attention, and in the expressions contained in it I found comfort in days of affliction. || The question whether the nation should or should not go to war is not a party one, depending on the opinion of the party which chose me as its leader. It is not a Government question, nor one of administration depending on the decision of the Cabinet. Nor is it a question which can be solved by the majority of the Chamber. It is a question that the nation must solve; but the nation must be unanimous, and not divided into parties and factions, but inspired by sacred enthusiasm. Both the nation and all the authorities, indeed, must be unanimous if they wish to make war. || If in ordinary times, before a State can decide upon making war, unanimity among the people is desirable, at the present moment, and under the conditions in which we are placed by the five Great Powers, a man who would assume the vast responsibility of pushing Greece to war must be sure that the nation has positively made up its mind to fight. || In such a case, even if the Cabinet be not of the same opinion, it would be weak indeed to stem the current which, in its impetuosity, would sweep it away, while the King, amidst the applause of the Hellenic nation, would dismiss it from office. || Under these conditions, the Ministers themselves need not arm, but the whole nation as a body will take up arms, and the Sovereign will be placed at the head of the nation, which, under his command, will vindicate by force of arms its indefeasible rights. || But if, dear fellow-contrymen, the question is only that the present Cabinet should be obliged to sign the Decree of Disarmament, the question is no more a national one, but is a question of intrigue. But on this I give to you the public assurance, that the present Cabinet will not sign it, not because its members are sparing their own persons, but because they are in duty bound to defend, even at the present hour, the dignity of the State.

Nr. 9159. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Ministerkrisis in Athen. [B. IV, 27.]

Athens, May 11, 1888.

Nr. 9159. England. 11. Mai 1888.

My Lord, || With reference to my immediately preceding despatch, I have the honour to report the Prime Minister went yesterday morning to the Palace and insisted on the King accepting his resignation. His Majesty had up to that moment declined to do so, on the ground that it was for M. Delyanni and for him alone, to find a way out of the difficulties which were besetting the country. It is reported in some quarters that M. Delyanni, actually declared that if his resignation was not accepted he would decline to attend to the ordinary administration of the country, and thus create a complete deadlock. || Under these circumstances, the King sent for M. Tricoupi, and requested him to form a Cabinet, but that gentleman declined to do so unless the Chamber were at once convoked, before the question of disarmament was raised, and by a majority of votes gave him the right and the power to carry on the Government. His Majesty has not yet given a final answer to M. Tricoupi, but in the meantime efforts have been made to form some sort of transition Ministry, either under M. Rikakis, the President of the Chamber, or under M. Sotiropoulos, who has held office as Minister of Finance several times under M. Coumoundouros, and is stated to be a practical financier. On the death of his leader he joined the party of M. Delyanni; but in the late debates, though he voted for him, he spoke against the Prime Minister's measures.

Yesterday evening M. Delyanni called a meeting of his supporters, which was attended by about sixty Deputies, and explained his reasons for resigning office. He said, that under present circumstances there were two courses open to the Government, viz., war or disarmament. The country must be perfectly unanimous if the former course was to be adopted. This unanimity his Cabinet had not found. M. Delyanni blames the members of the Opposition, and through them indirectly the King, for this state of things. || As regards disarmament, the Cabinet could not agree to it because the Five Powers, being hostile to the Prime Minister in person, would continue their interference in such a way as to humiliate both the Government and the Sovereign. Under these circumstances, the Cabinet could but resign, leaving their successor to select which of the two courses mentioned above they would pursue. The Prime Minister is here reported to have made use of a phrase which different persons interpret in different ways. His words may either imply, that he will support his successors, whatever policy they may propose or they may mean that he will support them if they should wish to declare war.

The "Proïa" of this morning contains an article in which the King is very plainly accused of intriguing with M. Tricoupi. || Other newspapers like-

wise attack His Majesty, and one, the "Chronos Athenon," contains the following phrase:— "Upon you, O King, lies the heaviest responsibility, because the Government blame you for the present wretched condition of affairs. You must therefore prove by deeds, that you really wanted war; otherwise you must remember, that there is such a thing as Divine justice." || I have, &c.

Walter Baring.

Nr. 9159. England. 11. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9160. **FRANKREICH.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Schleunige Abberufung nach Paris zu mündlicher Besprechung*). [G. 721.]

(Télégramme.)

Paris, le 11 mai 1886.

Venez immédiatement à Paris pour conférer avec moi. Vous vous embarqueriez au besoin sur le stationnaire, qui vous conduirait en Italie. || M. Deschamps, à qui vous laisserez la gestion, devra se renfermer strictement, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, dans l'expédition des affaires. Vous lui en ferez la recommandation formelle.

C. de Freycinet.

Nr. 9160. Frankreich. 11. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9161. **ENGLAND.** — Gesandter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Haltung der griechischen Bevölkerung. [B. III, 373.]

Malta, May 12, 1886.

My Lord, || The news which has reached me from Athens since my arrival here justifies the hope that the worst of the Greek crisis is past, though the sufferings which it has brought to the Greek people cannot, unfortunately, so soon come to an end. || I am anxious to be allowed to put on record my impressions of the bearing of the people at large during this most trying period. The alacrity with which they responded to the calls made upon them by their Government, and the unquestioning patience with which they bore the cruel burdens and privations entailed by the mobilization, are now matter of history, and have been done full justice to by the foreign press. || What I would wish to point to, as of my own personal experience, is the quiet dignity with which the population of the capital has comported itself under conditions which could not but be galling to the national pride. I can testify to the fact, that not a word, or even a gesture, of disrespect was used towards any of my colleagues

Nr. 9161. England. 12. Mai 1886.

*) Auf die telegraphische Anfrage des Gesandten, ob er im Falle, dass ein „Ministerium der Abrüstung" in Athen zustande käme, seine Abreise nach Paris aufschieben dürfe [G. 725], antwortet Freycinet am 12. Mai telegraphisch: Je ne change rien à mes instructions. Partez demain jeudi. Je saisis cette occasion de vous exprimer mon entière satisfaction. [G. 726.]

Nr. 9161. England. 12. Mai 1886.

or myself at any time in the course of the last fortnight. It was impossible for us not to be aware at the same time, that the foreign coercion applied deeply stirred the national feeling. Not a symptom, however, of ill-will on that account was allowed to show on the surface, and I may honestly record my conviction that, whatever the errors of their Government, the Greek nation have passed through this ordeal in a manner that entitles them to all the respect and sympathy which I for my part have never ceased to entertain for them. || I have, &c.

Horace Rumbold.

Nr. 9162. **ENGLAND.** — Instruction des Blokadegeschwaders für die Ausführung der Blokade. [B. III, 370.]

Nr. 9162. England. 13. Mai 1886.

A Blockade of the coast of Greece against vessels under the Greek flag has been established by Her Majesty's Government in concert with the Governments of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy and Russia. || The blockade will extend from Cape Malea to Cape Colonna, and thence to the northern frontier of Greece, including the Island of Euboea, and will also comprise the entrance of the Gulf of Corinth on the west coast. || You are to give orders to all officers commanding Her Majesty's ships to detain every ship under the Greek flag which may attempt to enter into, or come out from, any of the harbours or ports, or communicate with any part of the coast within the above-mentioned limits.

Should, however, the cargo, or any part of the cargo, on board any ship belong to a subject or citizen of a foreign Power other than Greece and other than the blockading Powers, and should such cargo have been shipped before the notification of the blockade, or after such notification, but under a Charter made anterior to the notification, such ship or vessel is not to be detained.

The fact of any vessel having been visited and allowed to proceed is to be entered by the boarding officer in the log of any ship allowed to proceed. The date, when, and place where such visit was made, is also to be entered in the log by the boarding officer.

You will communicate these instructions to the Senior Officers in command of the ships acting with you, in order to secure as far as practicable uniformity of action on the part of the foreign ships acting in concert with Her Majesty's ships.

All practicable steps must be taken in every case of detention in order to secure the safety of the ships and cargoes.

Nr. 9163. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Lage des neuen Kabinets in Athen. [B. IV, 31.]

(Extract.) Athens, May 13, 1886.

Nr. 9163. England. 13 Mai 1886.

Now that Greece once more possesses a Cabinet*), it may be well to consider what is the actual condition of affairs, and what chances there are of a solution of existing difficulties being arrived at. || The present Cabinet, composed as it is of men who have not hitherto taken any very prominent part in politics, may be looked upon more or less as a makeshift, and will very soon have to make way for some more political Ministry. || The first step of the Cabinet has been to convoke the Chamber; in fact, the King insisted upon this being done, having previously broken with M. Papamichalopoulos on this very subject. This gentleman was anxious to disarm at once, and not to convoke the Chamber till November. || It was said yesterday, that the present Cabinet would proceed at once to come to terms with the Powers, and would then call upon the Chamber to sanction what had been done. In case of an adverse vote, a dissolution would at once take place, and the King would then be constitutionally free to choose his advisers where he thought fit. Should this course be adopted, the Session would be considered as an extraordinary one, and elections of a President, Secretaries, &c., would not be necessary. || This morning, however, it appears, that the Session will be considered an ordinary one, which will entail the election of a President, &c., thus giving an indication of which political party has the confidence of the country. In this case it may be presumed, that the present Ministry will resign and make way either for M. Tricoupi, M. Delyanni, or some coalition Cabinet in which M. Papamichalopoulos, M. Rikakis and others would figure. || An article which has appeared in M. Tricoupi's paper, the "Hora," to-day, looks upon this second mode of procedure as absolutely certain. || Should M. Delyanni by any possibility return to office, he would have to disarm. He has himself declared, that if the country wants war it must be unanimous, adding that the unanimity does not exist. Therefore war is an impossibility; the alternative of war is disarmament, and he would have to choose the latter. || As regards M. Tricoupi, he has held that Greece could not yield to pressure, and that the blockade must be raised before a single concession was made; but there are indications now, that he may modify his views.

*) Am 12. Mai war nach vielen Schwierigkeiten endlich ein Ministerium unter Vorsitz von Valvis zustande gebracht worden. [B. IV, 30.]

Nr. 9164. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. — Antwort Roseberys auf die Aufrage Deutschlands über die freie Fahrt der griechischen Deputirten zur Nationalversammlung. [B. IV, 4.]

Foreign Office, May 15, 1886.

Nr. 9164. England. 15. Mai 1886.

Sir, || The German Ambassador called on me to-day and asked me what I thought of the possible application from the Greek Government, that ships conveying the Greek Deputies to the meeting of the Chambers at Athens should be allowed to pass through the blockade. || I replied, that in my opinion, if Greek ships were sent to fetch Greek Deputies, they should be provided with passes signed by the Chargés d'Affaires of the Powers conducting the blockade, and, under those circumstances, should be allowed to pass the line of klockade for the object in question. || But I proceeded to say, that I did not think that the case would arise, as it was much simpler for the Greek Government to charter foreign ships to fetch the Deputies. Such vessels could pass through the blockade without any special permission. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9165. **GRIECHENLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in London. — Beschwerde über die Härte der österreichischen Schiffe bei Durchführung der Blokade. [B. IV, 8.]

(Télégraphique.) Athènes, le 15 Mai, 1886.

Nr. 9165. Griechenland. 15. Mai 1886.

J'ai adressé le télégramme ci-dessous à notre Légation à Vienne. Veuillez le communiquer à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, en le priant de vouloir bien faire donner des instructions à l'Amiral commandant les escadres combinées, afin que de telles rigueurs, qui menacent l'existence même des populations, ne se renouvellent pas:—

"Veuillez communiquer les télégrammes ci-dessous à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères et faire ressortir les rigueurs, qui n'ont pas leur raison d'être, auxquelles s'est livré le bâtiment Autrichien contre les habitants de Skiathos, en les privant des moyens d'importer des approvisionnements et de tout moyen de communication par la destruction du fil télégraphique. Ces rigueurs exercées à la veille de la réunion de la Chambre, qui est appelée à résoudre la question qui a provoqué le blocus du littoral, sont d'autant plus regrettables qu'aucune plainte de ce genre ne nous a été adressé contre les bâtiments bloquant autres parties de la Grèce. || Voici le texte d'un télégramme du Directeur du bureau télégraphique de Skiathos: —

'Aujourd'hui vers 10 heures un officier, un sous-officier, trois matelots non armés et sept autres matelots portant leurs armes et faisant partie de l'équipage du vaisseau de guerre Autrichien mouillé dans ce port, se sont

rendus au bureau télégraphique, et en sortant, après avoir enlevé de force la carte et tous les appareils télégraphiques, à l'aide d'une longue-vue, nous les avons vu se diriger vers la petite tour, dont ils ont forcé la porte, et la communication télégraphique fut aussitôt interrompue.'"

Nr. 9165. Griechenland. 15. Mai 1886.

Texte d'un télégramme du Maire de Skiathos:—

"Les provisions de farine dans l'Ile de Skiathos sont épuisées. Les habitants meurent de faim. || Communication entre l'Ile et Volo est interdite. Veuillez répondre."

Nr. 9166. **GRIECHENLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in London. — Erneute Beschwerde über das Vorgehen der österreichischen Schiffe. [B. IV, 11.]

(Télégraphique.) Athènes, le 16 Mai, 1886, nuit.

Nr. 9166. Griechenland. 16. Mai 1886.

Les informations données par mon télégramme précédent sur mesures prises par bâtiments Autrichiens contre l'Ile de Skiathos sont confirmées par d'autres télégrammes. Quoique toute correspondance avec Skiathos est interompue, le Sous-Préfet de Skopelos télégraphie que les habitants craignent le même sort, et que dans quelques yours ils seront dépourvus de tout moyen de subsistance. Les bâtiments Autrichiens saisissent non seulement les bateaux mais encore les barques des pêcheurs ainsi que celles qui font le service postal. Les habitants sont dans la plus grande détresse. Veuillez faire connaître ce qui précède à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères et en télégraphier le résultat de vos démarches.

Nr. 9167. **ENGLAND.** — Der Befehlshaber des Blokadegeschwaders an das Sekretariat der Admiralität. — Meldet die Theilnahme russischer Schiffe an der Blokade. [B. IV, 12.]

(Telegraphic.) Syra (sent from Zea by torpedo-boat), May 17, 1886, 9·36 A.M.

Nr. 9167. England. 17. Mai 1886.

The Russian Admiral arrived at Zea to-day: he has instructions to co-operate with blockading squadron, communicating frequently with Suda. || He will cruize between Cape Malea and Suda, and will have the supervision of the coast between those places until he falls in with a British ship off the Gulf of Nauplia.

Nr. 9168. ENGLAND. — Sekretariat der Admiralität an den Befehlshaber des Blokadegeschwaders. — Ermächtigung, die Verproviantirung der griechischen Inseln zu gestatten. [B. IV, 22.]

(Telegraphic.) Admiralty, May 18, 1886, 6 P. M.

Nr. 9168. England. 18. Mai 1886.

Should any actual distress arise in the islands from food being scarce, pending the receipt of supplies from the Greek Government, you have authority to do all that you think necessary to relieve it, and even special permission may be granted to vessels carrying provisions under such regulations as you may frame, which are to be sufficiently stringent.

Nr. 9169. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Athen. — Berichtet über ein Gespräch mit dem griechischen Gesandten und diesem gemachte Andeutungen betreffs von der griechischen Regierung erwarteter Schritte. [B. IV, 86.]

Foreign Office, May 25, 1886.

Nr. 9169. England. 25. Mai 1886.

Sir, || The Greek Minister called upon me to-day to speak about the telegrams from the Greek Government to their Representative at Constantinople, which he had unofficially communicated to me yesterday, and which announced the issue of the Decree of Demobilization and of orders for the withdrawal of the Greek troops from the frontier. M. Gennadius expressed the pleasure it had given him to send me this information. || I asked him if it was to be considered as an official communication. || M. Gennadius replied in the negative; he had not even M. Tricoupi's permission to show the telegrams to me.

I told M. Gennadius, speaking confidentially and unofficially, that I was afraid that the absence of any communication from the Greek Government would create an unfortunate impression among the Powers, and that although he knew I had never been a stickler for form in the matter, yet unless some communication were made to them, I feared they would not consider that they had been treated with common courtesy. The natural course in any considerable event of this kind affecting the peace of Europe would be that M. Tricoupi should communicate the Decree of Disarmament to the Greek Representatives at foreign Courts. That proceeding would be no humiliation to him; it would simply be the ordinary course of business. I did not wish him to make any communication on the subject to our Chargé d'Affaires at Athens if that were distasteful to him; but I feared, that the mere issue of the Decree, without any diplomatic communication, would hardly satisfy the Great Powers of Europe. I pointed out to M. Gennadius, that it would be well for M. Tricoupi to send such a communication spontaneously, before receiving, as he possibly might, expressions of dissatisfaction from some of the Powers. He must also remember, I said, that the Decree of Demobilization

would remain a dead letter if the blockade were not raised, and we might have a renewal of those regrettable incidents on the frontier which had recently taken place. Nr. 9169. England. 25. Mai 1886.

M. Gennadius promised to communicate these observations to his Government as the result of a private conversation with me. He said, that the explanation of the recent skirmishes, so far as he could ascertain, was that the Turks had been firing on a considerable number of deserters who were flying by night, half-famished, towards the Greek lines. || I said, that this might be so, but that he would have the greatest difficulty—in fact, I feared he would be undertaking a hopeless task — in convincing impartial observers that the Turks, who with their vast army had remained quiet so many months, had suddenly taken the offensive at this particular juncture. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9170. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über Delyannis' Niederlage bei der Präsidentschaftswahl der Kammer, die Ministerkrisis und die von Trikupis geplante Politik. [B. IV, 88.]

Athens, May 20, 1886.

My Lord, || As I reported in my telegram of yesterday's date, the Chamber met yesterday morning. The Prime Minister read the Royal Decree convoking the Assembly, and some members of M. Delyanni's party proposed that the election of President should be immediately proceeded with. M. Delyanni himself said a few words in favour of adjournment, and the election was postponed till this morning. || At 10 A.M. the Deputies met, when, in a House of 230 Members, M. Stephanopoulos, M. Tricoupi's candidate, received 139 votes and M. Delyanni 78. There were 8 blanks, and 5 votes were given for M. Economos and M. Tricoupi personally. || The result was greeted with considerable cheering both in and out of the Chamber. M. Tricoupi was accompanied to his house by a crowd of respectable persons. || M. Tricoupi made a short speech from his balcony, a translation of which I have the honour to inclose. His language was careful and guarded. Nr. 9170. England. 20. Mai 1886.

Up to yesterday it was fully expected, that M. Delyanni would have the majority at the Presidential election, and it is thought that had his supporters been able to force on the voting at yesterday's sitting he would have been returned, though by so small a majority, that a dissolution would have immediately followed. Yesterday, however, a meeting of M. Delyanni's supporters took place, at which that gentleman declared his intention of again becoming a candidate for the office of Prime Minister. This announcement raised a storm, and though M. Delyanni is said to have abandoned his idea, thus regaining a few waverers, the split in the party became complete and late last night it was reported that the Tricoupists were certain of victory. One reason which conduced to this break up no doubt was that many Deputies feared,

Nr. 9170. England. 20. Mai 1886.

that M. Delyanni's election as President of the Chamber meant certain dissolution, and they had no wish to have now thrown upon them the expense and trouble of a General Election.

The Cabinet of M. Valvis has already resigned, and M. Tricoupi has been summoned to the Palace. It is expected, that in the course of the day his Ministry, which was in all probability arranged beforehand, will be formed. I have heard various names mentioned as of persons likely to form part of it, but as yet nothing is known for certain. It is said that M. Tricoupi will himself take the Finance Department as well as the Presidency of the Council, M. Vlachos becoming Minister for Foreign Affairs. Others say, that the Prime Minister will take the seals of the latter Department. || There appears little doubt, that a disarmament policy will be adopted. For the last few days M. Tricoupi has been less bellicose, and has dropped, to some extent, the theory which he previously enunciated so freely, that Greece would never yield to the tyranny of Europe unless, indeed, actual violence were employed. He has probably found out, that the country is weary of the situation, that disarmament is demanded on all sides, and that the blockade is a stern reality. || I am informed on good authority, that he says his first step will be to decree demobilization, and that he will go even further in this respect than the Powers could expect him to go. Some delay might, however, be caused by the necessity of making very careful arrangements for sending the discharged troops to their homes. If sent away without proper precautions, these men would be apt to loot villages on their way, or break up into bands of brigands. I hear also, that M. Tricoupi will not give assurances to the Powers, and that he will not even communicate the decree of demobilization. To do so will, no doubt, be distasteful to him; but it is not clear how he expects, that the Powers, without receiving some communication on this important subject, can raise the blockade, or advise the Porte to withdraw her armies from the Greek frontier. || There is a further question about which also some difficulty may arise, and that is, what is to be considered to be the peace footing of the Greek army? Probably, it ought to be the number of men actually under arms when M. Delyanni commenced his warlike policy; but it is well known, that M. Tricoupi is of opinion that Greece should always be prepared to take advantage of any complications in Eastern Europe, and that she should keep on foot an army of between 30,000 and 40,000 men. M. Tricoupi has, however, modified his opinions upon other matters, and there is therefore reason to hope that he may do the same both with regard to the communication of the demobilization decree and the numerical strength of the Greek army. || It is worth noting, as a curious and striking instance of the fickleness of the crowd, that the man who on the 9th instant was assailed with cries of "traitor" and threatened with violence should, eleven days later, be chosen Prime Minister amidst manifestations of general satisfaction. || I have, &c.

Walter Baring.

Inclosure.

Speech made by M. Tricoupi from his Balcony.

(Translation.)

To-Day's vote in the Chamber raised not only that Assembly, but also the nation. We are passing through trying times, and demonstrations of joy are out of place. Let us prepare seriously to meet the difficulties which beset us. We are allowed to do this with all confidence, because the Representatives of the nation have shown that they have preserved intact their moral force. When the nation is united heart and soul, when no national losses have been suffered, we can, while proceeding to realize national obligations, look to the issue hopefully and confidently.

Nr. 9170. England. 20. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9171. GRIECHENLAND. — Artikel der „Hora", des Organs Trikupis', über dessen Programm. [B. IV, 114.]

(Translation.)

The "Hora" of the 21st May, 1886, in its leading article, after saying that the result of yesterday's vote in the Chamber was such as to do credit to the Chamber of Deputies and to prove their patriotism, adds:—

Nr. 9171. Griechenland. 21. Mai 1886.

"The new Government which will have to be sanctioned to-day by the King's signature, relying on the disinterested and spontaneous support on the part of the Chamber and on the kind disposition of the Greek people, will at once undertake the task of healing the wounds, opened by the incapacity and callousness of the demagogues who were driven from office. The Government have as a safe guide the programme which was developed in the Chamber by the leader of the Opposition before the present misfortunes occurred, and which, had it been accepted then by a foolish and blind Government, the national sovereignty would not have been wounded to the quick, nor would the opportunity have been given to foreigners to touch the details of our military organization. The execution of a programme, declared when liberty of action was complete, takes off from measures already settled the character of having been imposed by coercion, and renders it easy for the new Government to regulate, without loss of time, the military affairs of the country, having regard to the exigencies of the present and the necessity of preparations for the future. This question will thus remain unconnected with the sad turn which the foreign relations of the State have of late taken, and will not render internal arrangements concerning the question (of the military organization) the subject of negotiations for the removal of the blockade."

Nr. 9172. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Berichtet über von den griechischen Vorposten begonnene Scharmützel. [B. IV, 49.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 21 Mai, 1886.

Nr. 9172. Türkei. 21. Mai 1886.

D'après les informations qui nous parviennent du Commandant-en-chef des troupes Impériales aux frontières Helléniques, les sentinelles Grecques de Kodaman et de Klephti ont dans la journée et la nuit d'hier, Jeudi, tiré à plusieurs reprises sur les avant-postes de l'aile gauche de notre corps d'armée d'Elassonia, et ceu-ci ont naturellement riposté sans prendre l'offensive. || A la nouvelle de cette escarmouche le Général de Brigade Safvet Pacha dépêcha immédiatement un Lieutenant-Colonel d'État-Major au corps de garde Hellénique de Melona à l'effet de s'aboucher avec le Commandant Hellène, le Colonel Zambrakaki, pour se renseigner sur l'incident et demander à ce qu'un officier Hellène l'accompagne pour faire cesser le feu de part et d'autre. || M. Zambrakaki lui répondit évasivement en paraissant ne point se préoccuper de l'incident et se bornant à dire qu'il avait besoin de prendre les ordres de son Commandant-en-chef à Larisse, qu'il allait lui télégraphier à ce sujet, et qu'il devait attendre sa résponse. || En présence des assurances qui nous ont été données par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Hellénique, et au moment où il se dipose à opérer le désarmement en Grèce, un tel acte d'hostilité de la part des sentinelles Grecques n'a pu avoir lieu d'ordre du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi Georges, mais bien par suite d'un manque de discipline parmi les troupes Grecques qui se trouvent sur les frontières. || A ce fait viennent se joindre les déclarations équivoques du Colonel Zambrakaki relatées ci-haut et son refus d'obtempérer à la demande du délégué de notre Commandant-en-chef de faire cesser de commun accord le feu, toutes choses qui semblent prouver que le conflit a dû probablement provenir du fait même des Commandants Hellènes partageant le sentiment de l'ex-Premier Ministre M. Delyanni. Nos troupes ont dû tout naturellement riposter, et ce avec l'intention évidente mettre fin à l'attaque des troupes Grecques et ne point leur donner l'occasion ou le courage de prendre l'offensive. || En tout cas des ordres précis et catégoriques viennent d'être transmis au Commandant-en-chef des troupes Impériales lui prescrivant de garder une stricte défensive et de s'abstenir de tout mouvement agressif tant que les troupes Hellènes n'auront point franchi la frontière. || Au dernier moment nous apprenons que le feu a cessé de part et d'autre. || Veuillez communiquer immédiatement cette dépêche à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Nr. 9173. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Athen. — Griechenland macht die Pforte für die an der Grenze vorgefallenen Gefechte und die dadurch hervorgerufene Verzögerung der Abrüstung verantwortlich. [B. IV, 55.]

Foreign Office, May 22, 1886.

Nr. 9173. England. 22. Mai 1886.

Sir, || The Greek Minister called on me to-day, and, by direction of his Government, made the following statement. || M. Dragoumis, he said, had telegraphed to the Greek Minister at Constantinople, requesting him to at once call the attention of the Porte to the fact, that the Ottoman troops had yesterday evening attacked two Greek posts near the eastern border of Thessaly. The Greek Government had instructed the Greek Commander to take the necessary steps to enable their troops to act on the defensive, so as to avoid regrettable results. || Information had reached the Greek Government later of further attacks by Turkish troops — of which M. Gennadius gave me some details, and of the capture of the Greek position at Baraktari. Orders had been given, that this post should be retaken, and this was eventually accomplished. The Greek Minister at Constantinople was instructed to impress upon the Sublime Porte the gravity of these events, and to urge that orders should be at once given that would put a stop to similar unjustifiable acts of aggression. || M. Gennadius went on to say, that the Greek Government had desired to carry out the measures which M. Tricoupi had advocated when Leader of the Opposition. But the events which had unfortunately taken place on the frontier — the entire responsibility of which rested on the Turkish authorities — had necessitated a postponement of the publication of orders which were on the point of being issued for the demobilization of the reserves, and for the withdrawal towards the interior of the army concentrated on the frontier. He had since received two Reuter's telegrams, which seemed to point at an arrangement for the signature of a Protocol between the two Commanders. || M. Gennadius, said that he hoped I had received the news of the recent decision of the Chamber with satisfaction. || I said, that I was not sufficiently acquainted with Greek politics to offer an opinion, but that I had heard with satisfaction the intention of the new Administration with regard to disarmament expressed in the statement he had just made to me, and I begged him to convey to M. Tricoupi my hope that our relations with the Government of the King might now soon be placed on a better footing. || I am, &c.

Roseb ery.

Nr. 9174. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Die Officiere der griechischen Vorposten bekennen die Schuld der Griechen an den vorgefallenen Gefechten. [B. IV, 61.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 22 Mai, 1886.

Nr. 9174. Türkei. 22. Mai 1886.

Hier vers le soir, après que le feu eut cessé de part et d'autre, les officiers Hellènes se trouvant à Klephti se rendirent auprès des officiers de nos avant-postes sur la frontière et leur avouèrent que c'étaient les sentinelles Grecques celles-mêmes qui avaient commencé le feu et occasionné ainsi le conflit. Ils exprimèrent aussi l'espoir que les hostilités ne recommenceraient plus. || Telles sont les dernières informations que nous venons de recevoir de notre Commandant-en-chef. || Veuillez communiquer également la présente dépêche à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Nr. 9175. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Neues Gefecht an der Grenze. [B. IV, 63.]

(Telegraphic.) Athens, May 22, 1886.

Nr. 9175. England. 22. Mai 1886.

Disquieting news this evening. More serious fighting reported from front and also extending along line west and south. Greeks maintain, that Turks are moving large masses of troops forward, and that they were the aggressors. || The attack is now on the Trikala side. The excitement is great. || M. Tricoupi has, I am told, requested Turkish Chargé d'Affaires to telegraph to Porte with a view to Turkish and Greek Commanders communicating directly with each other and arranging matters. || M. Tricoupi is sending out protest to Powers against blockade.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

Nr. 9176. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Berichtet über neue Gefechte an der Grenze, die türkische Zurückhaltung und den Entschluss, nöthigenfalls die Offensive zu ergreifen. [B. IV, 73.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 23 Mai, 1886.

Nr. 9176. Türkei. 23. Mai 1886.

Vous savez déjà par mes télégrammes précédents que les avant-postes Hellènes avaient tiré sur nos sentinelles postées sur la ligne de Codomanalys, et qu'après plusieurs heures le feu avait cessé de part et d'autre. || Au moment où l'incident paraissait clos, nous avons appris bientôt après avec surprise qu'à 6 heures de l'après-midi d'hier, Samedi, les troupes Hellènes postées entre Melona Derbend et les positions en face du bourg de Tirnova ont à l'improviste commencé à tirer des coups de canon et de fusil sur toutes les

positions militaires Ottomanes, se trouvant vis-à-vis de ces localités et un peu plus tard sur celles d'au delà de Tirnova, à savoir: les points de Tchlésihissar, Cotra et Aya Ilia, le tout formant un parcours de 40 kilom. || Il résulte des informations récentes reçues de nos Commandants militaires que les troupes Impériales ont gardé la plus stricte défensive devant le feu non-interrompu que les Grecs ont ouvert contre nos avant-postes et devant les mouvements agressifs auxquels ils se sont livrés et se livrent à l'heure qu'il est, en franchissant en dernier lieu la frontière contre nos corps de garde, dont ils ont incendié quelques-uns, parmi lesquels ceux de Melona et de Kirtchova, et contre nos positions militaires. En dépit de ces hostilités flagrantes et commises de propos délibéré par les troupes Helléniques, le Gouvernement Impérial, animé du désir sincère de sauvegarder la paix, s'est abstenu de donner l'ordre à Ahmed Eyoub Pacha de prendre à son tour l'offensive pour repousser par la force l'agression inqualifiable des Hellènes sur notre territoire; et voulant donner une nouvelle preuve de ses sentiments de modération et de sa longanimité vis-à-vis de toutes ces provocations, a adhéré hier soir au contenu d'un télégramme du Cabinet d'Athènes présenté à la Sublime Porte par sa Légation à Constantinople, télégramme proposant un échange de communications entre les Commandants-en-chef des armées respectives en vue de faire cesser les hostilités. Ordre télégraphique a donc été immédiatement transmis à Ahmed Eyoub Pacha d'agir en conséquence. Dans sa première réponse, le Général-en-chef Hellène essaya de rejeter la responsabilité du conflit sur les troupes Impériales, et demanda à ce que le Maréchal Ottoman fasse cesser les hostilités sans s'engager lui-même à prendre de son côté les mesures nécessaires pour cet objet. En réponse à cette communication, Ahmed Eyoub Pacha a décliné toute responsabilité, en déclarant que l'attitude des troupes Impériales est purement défensive, et l'a invité à se rendre sur les lieux pour constater *de visu* quel était l'agresseur et s'entendre avec lui pour faire cesser le feu de part et d'autre. || Les rapports que nous avons reçus ultérieurement du Commandant-en-chef Impérial démontrent qu'en présence des agressions de plus en plus accentuées des troupes Grecques, nos positions devant se trouver forcément isolées et en butte aux attaques partielles et en masse faites sur chacune d'elles, les opérations de jonction se trouveraient par suite de la défensive indubitablement neutralisées; dès lors les positions seraient pour la plupart gravement compromises. Les troupes Helléniques continuent même à s'avancer dedans notre territoire, en particulier du côté de Tirnova, pour essayer d'intercepter nos communications. La situation donc, comme vous le voyez, semble non seulement s'engager dans une impasse, mais encore elle devient intolérable en face d'une guerre que l'on nous fait (car la chose a pris l'aspect véritable d'un conflit), sans qu'il y ait eu déclaration de guerre, avec tous les avantages impunis de l'offensive pour les Hellènes et les désavantages pour nous de l'état de défensive, avec toutes ses chances défavorables.

Les Puissances constateront dans leur juste appréciation sur qui doit re-

Nr. 9176. Türkei. 23. Mai 1886.

tomber la lourde responsabilité d'un pareil état de choses, que le Gouvernement Hellénique essaye vainement de rejeter sur nous. || En signalant tout ce qui précède à la plus sérieuse attention du Gouvernement près duquel vous êtes accrédité, et en développant les considérations que je viens d'énoncer, vous êtes autorisé à lui déclarer que nous nous trouvons dans l'obligation impérieuse de décider d'autoriser notre Commandant militaire en chef à prendre à son tour l'offensive pour repousser l'agression commise sur notre territoire, en agissant selon les exigences du moment, et pour sauvegarder ainsi la dignité et les droits de l'Empire. || Veuillez donner immédiatement lecture de cette dépêche à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères et en laisser une copie à son Excellence.

P. S. — Au dernier moment nous apprenons qu'aujourdhui, à 4 heures 25 minutes de l'après-midi, les hostilités ont cessé sur toute la ligne. La plupart des Commandants des positions militaires Grecques sont venus déclarer aux nôtres qu'ils ont reçu l'ordre catégorique d'arrêter l'attaque. Un Colonel Hellène s'est rendu à notre corps de garde de Melona-Derbend pour demander à ce qu'un officier supérieur soit désigné par notre Commandant-en-chef pour entrer avec lui en pourparlers relativement à la cessation des hostilités. Ahmed Eyoub Pacha avait désigné pour cet objet le Lieutenant-Colonel Rifat Bey. Mais à l'instant même le Général Saboundjaki s'étant rendu en personne à Tirnova pour voir le Maréchal, les deux Commandants-en-chef auront à se concerter ensemble. L'acquiescement de notre Commandant prouve une fois de plus nos sentiments de modération et notre profond désir de maintenir la paix; mais il va sans dire que si les Grecs venaient à recommencer les hostilités, nos troupes ne pourraient faire autrement que de prendre l'offensive.

Nr. 9177. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Der Grossvezir lehnt den Vorschlag Englands, die Truppen von der Grenze zurückzuziehen, ab. [B. IV, 77.]

Constantinople, Mai 24, 1886.

Nr. 9177. England. 21. Mai 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, suggesting that, as the Turkish and Greek Commanders were in communication, it might be possible for them to sign a Protocol mutually agreeing to withdraw to a certain distance from the frontier, and instructing me to urge this upon the Porte, I have the honour to report that I conveyed the suggestion to the Grand Vizier, who requested me to thank your Lordship, but expressed a fear that it was impossible to adopt it, as it would seriously irritate the Turkish troops, and would make them fear that they might still be kept under arms for a long time. His Highness further remarked, that the simple solution was that the Greeks should order the disarmament of their troops. || News had

reached the Porte that two Turkish posts near Janina were yesterday attacked by the Greeks, in one of these sixteen out of eighteen men were killed, and in the other ten out of fourteen; and the Sublime Porte are of opinion that, if these attacks do not cease, it will be very difficult to prevent the Turkish troops from retaliating. || I also hear, that a Conference is going on to-day between the two Commanders-in-chief. || I have &c.

Nr. 9177. England. 24. Mai 1886.

Edwd. Thornton.

Nr. 9178. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Die Feindseligkeiten werden trotz der schwebenden Verhandlungen griechischerseits immer wieder erneuert. [B. IV, 80.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 25 Mai, 1886.

Suivant les informations qui nous parviennent à l'instant même à 8 heures du soir notre Commandant-en-chef pendant qu'il était en pourparler dans le corps de garde de Mélona avec le Général Saboundjaki et que celui-ci lui donnait des assurances de paix, reçut de Sélami Pacha, Commandant de l'aile droite de l'armée Impériale, une dépêche lui annonçant une attaque faite aujourd'hui par les troupes Helléniques sur la localité nommée Bonitza. A la lecture de cette dépêche à lui par Ahmed Eyoub Pacha, le Général Hellène partit immédiatement après avoir déclaré qu'il allait donner l'ordre aux agresseurs de cesser le feu et de repasser la frontière et que ses ordres seraient écontés sur la lettre. De son côté, Ahmed Eyoub Pacha a prescrit à Sélami Pacha de faire part de ce qui précède au Commandant Hellène dirigeant l'attaque et de s'arrêter aussitôt que les troupes Grecques auraient cessé le feu. || Nous attendons de plus amples renseignements à cet égard. || Veuillez communiquer sans retard la présente dépêche à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Nr. 9178. Türkei. 25. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9179. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über Trikupis' Haltung. [B. IV, 92.]

(Telegraphic.) Athens, Mai 26, 1886.

With reference to my telegram of yesterday, I have now a fuller report of what took place in Chamber. || M. Trikoupi said, that action of Government was unconnected with blockade, which was an act of violence, and that Greece would yield to it gradually, being a weak State, and when applied it was in a manner which was irresistible. || His language was somewhat vague, and is variously interpreted. My impression is, that he meant to imply that he will take no steps to have blockade raised, or, in other words, that the Decree

Nr. 9179. England. 26. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9179. England. 26. Mai 1886.

will not be communicated to Powers, but that he will yield to irresistible force, and do what Powers require, should blockade not be raised. || The policy he has frequently announced is to ignore foreign interference till it assumes the form of violence. || Answering a question, M. Tricoupi said, that he had no knowledge of the blockade except what was derived from Government archives, that, taking into consideration peaceful condition of country, it would probably be raised. He had not discussed question with Powers, but had only protested. || He told Italian Chargé d'Affaires in conversation, that he did not consider Secretaries of the four Powers as properly accredited Representatives.

Nr. 9180. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Athen an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Abrüstung Griechenlands hat begonnen. [B. IV, 95.]

(Telegraphic.) Athens, May 27, 1886, 12·50 P.M.

Nr. 9180. England. 27. Mai 1886.

According to information given me by Minister for Foreign Affairs, withdrawal of troops has begun, and they are concentrating at different centres. || I am told on good authority, that the number of men discharged in virtue of Decree should amount to about 45,000.

Nr. 9181. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. — Italienische Vorschläge betreffs Aufhebung der Blokade und englischer Gegenvorschlag. [B. IV, 97.]

Foreign Office, Mai 27, 1886.

Nr. 9181. England. 27. Mai 1886.

Sir, || The Italian Ambassador called on me to-day, and read to me a telegram from Count Robilant, stating that in that Minister's opinion the Greek Decree for Disarmament ought to be notified by the Greek Government to their Representatives abroad, and by them to the Five Powers. Upon this being done the blockade might be raised, and the fleet might go to Suda Bay for a week; after which, if disarmament progressed satisfactorily, it might separate. But Count Robilant wished to act, as before, in union with the other Powers, and desired first to ask the opinion of Her Majesty's Government. || I answered, that Count Robilant's programme coincided in every detail with my own. There seemed to me to be only one other contingency under which the blockade might be raised, which was, that, if the Porte should request us to raise it, we might consider the propriety of doing so. || I am, &c.

Rosebery.

Nr. 9182. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Berlin, Wien und Rom. — Anfrage über die Ansicht der Mächte betreffs Aufhebung der Blokade und englischer Standpunkt. [B. IV, 102.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, May 28, 1886, 4 P.M.

I should be glad to learn views as to blockade of the Government to which you are accredited. In my opinion, it can only be raised if Decree of Disarmament is communicated to the Powers, or at request of Porte. Nr. 9182. England. 28. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9183. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Rom an den Min. des Ausw. — Ansichten Russlands und Italiens betreffs Aufhebung der Blokade. [B. IV, 105.]

Rome, Mai 28, 1886.

My Lord, || Baron d'Uxkull communicated to-day to Count Robilant a despatch from the Russian Government, stating that, in their opinion, the time has now arrived for raising the blockade of the Greek coasts, as a measure calculated to facilitate the demobilization of the Greek forces. || Count Robilant replied, that he did not think the blockade could be raised unless the Decree of Disarmament were notified to the Powers, or they should consent to consider as sufficient the communication of a telegram from the Hellenic Government to their Representative at Constantinople, announcing the disarmament of the Greek army. || I have, &c. J. Savile Lumley. Nr. 9183. England. 28. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9184. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. — Nur auf einem von zwei Wegen kann die Blokade aufgehoben werden*). [B. IV, 110.]

Foreign Office, May 29, 1886.

Sir, || The German Ambassador called on me to-day and asked me if I had anything to communicate about Greece. I replied, that I could tell him the view that I took of the situation, which I begged him to communicate to Prince Bismarck. I thought, that the blockade could be raised only in one of two ways, either by the communication of the Decree of Disarmament to us by M. Tricoupi, or, at the request of the Porte, to facilitate the process of disarmament. || I am, &c. Rosebery. Nr. 9184. England. 29. Mai 1886.

*) Graf Kalnoky theilte ganz diese Ansicht entgegen der russischen, dass die Veröffentlichung des Abrüstungsdekrets genüge, und erwartete die Initiative von Seiten Englands. [B. IV, 113.]

Nr. 9185. **TÜRKEI.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Trotz der Anzeige der Abrüstung beharren die griechischen Truppen in ihrer feindseligen Haltung, verletzen die Grenze und zwingen die Türken zu Gegenmaassregeln.

(Nach der Ausfertigung für die Botschafter in London und Rom.)
[B. IV, 117; Gr. 127.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 30 Mai, 1886.

Nr. 9185. Türkei. 30. Mai 1886.

La Légation Hellénique à Constantinople nous avait, il y a quelques jours, fait part de la résolution de son Gouvernement de licencier les réservistes qui avaient été appelés sous les drapeaux et de retirer ses troupes des frontières. Nous avons accueilli cette communication avec satisfaction, nous réservant, comme je vous en ai déjà informé par ma dépêche No. 45, de démobiliser à notre tour nos troupes aussitôt que la Grèce aurait désarmé et remis les troupes sur le pied de paix.

Pendant que notre Commandant-en-chef s'est mis en mesure de remplir fidèlement la parole qu'il avait donnée dans son entrevue avec M. le Général-en-chef Sabounjaaki de remettre les avant-postes des frontières sur l'ancien pied, c'est-à-dire, d'évacuer réciproquement les corps de garde dont les Commandants s'étaient emparés pendant les derniers combats, ainsi que les autres points sis sur la ligne de frontière, pendant que, enfin, Ahmed Eyoub Pacha faisait rentrer dans leurs cantonnements primitifs les bataillons qui s'étaient avancé vers la frontière durant le conflit en question, nous avons appris avec une vive surprise que malgré l'avis donné en due forme au Commandant Hellène qui s'était emparé à l'improviste du fortin des Zigos, situé sur notre territoire en face de Metzovo, après y avoir massacré seize soldats sur les dix-sept préposés à sa garde, et malgré la déclaration que la Légation Hellénique ici vient de nous faire sur l'absence de tout soldat Hellène à Zigos, ce même Commandant non seulement continue jusqu'à présent à occuper cette position, mais encore il fait construire là et aux alentours trois ouvrages fortifiés en y plaçant des canons. || Le Maréchal Eyoub Pacha, tout en portant à notre connaissance ce regrettable incident, ajoute que bien que d'après les informations, qui lui sont parvenues, les Commandants militaires Hellènes aient retiré une partie de leurs troupes un peu au delà des positions qu'elles occupaient naguère avant le dernier combat, et que la démobilisation immédiate de deux classes de réserves Helléniques ait été promulguée, cependant dès la soirée d'hier, 29 Mai, trois nouveaux bataillons Grecs ont été expédiés de Tirnova à Kara-déré, qui est un point sis au-dessous de la position de Mélona-Derbend, et des munitions de guerre sont envoyées de Larisse à Tirnova.

En présence de ces faits, notre Commandant-en-chef conçoit avec raison des doutes sur la véracité des mesures dont il s'agit de démobilisation annoncées par les autorités Helléniques. || Nous aimons toujours à croire à la loyauté

des intentions du Cabinet d'Athènes de désarmer dans le plus bref délai et de remettre ses troupes sur le pied de paix; mais il n'en est pas moins vrai que les actes de ses Commandants militaires semblent ne point s'accorder avec ses déclarations. || Je vous prie, en conséquence, de signaler ce qui précède à l'attention du Gouvernement près duquel vous êtes accrédité, en donnant lecture et copie de la présente dépêche à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, et de faire entendre en même temps à son Excellence combien nous serions au regret, en face de cet état d'incertitude et du refus du Commandant Hellène de Zigos d'évacuer cette position qui nous appartient, d'être dans l'obligation d'aviser aux moyens nécessaires pour rentrer en possession de cette localité.

Nr. 9185. Türkei. 30. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9186. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Meinungsaustausch zwischen Rosebery und dem russischen Botschafter in London. [B. IV, 120.]

Foreign Office, May 31, 1886.

Sir, || I had some conversation with the Russian Ambassador at the levee this afternoon. || He asked me if it was the view of Her Majesty's Government that the blockade could only be raised on Greece giving notice to the Powers of the Decree of Disarmament. || I said that, as regards Greece, that was the case, but that in our opinion it was not much to ask that what Russia or Great Britain would do unter similar circumstances should be done by Greece, *i.e.*, that in proceeding to a great measure of disarmament the Greek Government should communicate the Decree to its Agents abroad, with instructions to show it to the Governments to which they are accredited. || This did not seem to me a demand of an exacting character. It was rather raising Greece to a level with the Great Powers than degrading her in any way. M. de Staal said, that the Greek contention seemed to be that it would be an interference with her internal affairs. || I remarked, that this was a view which I could not entertain. We took action, not with regard to the internal affairs of Greece, but for the securing of the peace of the East and for the protection of Turkey, which was, in our opinion, unjustly menaced by Greece. Thus the disarmament of Greece could not be considered by us as an internal arrangement. The only method, then, for Greece to obtain the raising of the blockade was to communicate the Decree, of which we could have no cognizance till it was communicated to us. It was obvious that, if Governments were to believe and act upon all they read in newspapers, they would soon find themselves in a false position. It was not their practice to do so, and they could not make an exception in this instance. || Of course, this did not exclude the raising of the blockade for other reasons. || I am, &c. Rosebery.

Nr. 9186. England. 31. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9187. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten bei den Grossmächten. — Bericht über die Fortschritte der Abrüstung, Klage über Fortdauer der Blokade*).

(Nach der Ausfertigung für den Gesandten in London. [B. IV, 124.])

Athènes, le 31 Mai, 1886.

Nr. 9187. Griechenland. 31. Mai 1886.

Durant les cinq journées du conflit Turco-Grec à la frontière, du 8 (20) au 12 (24) Mai, le Gouvernement Royal s'est vu obligé de protester contre l'état de choses créé par le blocus des côtes de la Grèce. || Tandis que les renforts affluaient librement de tout côté, par terre et par mer, pour grossir les forces déjà bien supérieures de l'armée Turque, la Grèce voyait avec anxiété ses mouvements de défense paralysés. || Le Cabinet présidé par M. Tricoupi entrait aux affaires le lendemain du jour où ce conflit regrettable venait d'éclater. Animé des sentiments pacifiques, et fondant sa politique sur l'entretien de relations de bon voisinage avec l'Empire Ottoman, c'est avec un véritable regret que au jour même, où il avait la ferme résolution de mettre un terme à l'état précaire de ces relations, il s'est vu obligé d'ajourner la promulgation des Décrets ordonnant la mise de l'armée Grecque sur le pied de paix. || Mais une fois l'entente établie entre les chefs des deux armées, sous l'action convergeante des deux Gouvernements, également intéressés au maintien de la paix, le Gouvernement Royal n'a pas perdu un moment pour procéder à l'exécution des mesures qu'il avait méditées. Dès le 12 (24) Mai, avant même que les négociations entamées avec Eyoub Pacha eussent entièrement abouti, un Décret Royal licenciait tous les dispensés et cinq classes de réservistes. En même temps, par ordre du Ministre de la Guerre, on retirait à l'intérieur l'armée échelonnée sur la frontière en lui faisant changer de cantonnements. A l'heure qu'il est, malgré certains mouvements suspects des forces Turques du côté d'Arta et de Metzovo, sans cesser de protester à Constantinople contre la flagrante violation d'engagements solennellement stipulés, le Gouvernement du Roi tient en pleine voie d'exécution les mesures ordonnées. || Des milliers de soldats sont déjà exonérés. Dans trois ou quatre jours tous les hommes appartenant aux catégories dénommées dans le Décret de Démobilisation auront regagné leurs foyers. En même temps, différents corps, quittant Arta et la Thessalie, rentrent dans leurs cantonnements primitifs en decà de l'ancienne frontière.

Devant une conduite pareille, faite pour rassurer tout intéressé, nous avons la douleur de constater que la pression résultant de l'investissement forcé de nos côtes, n'a subi le moindre relâchement. Le service du blocus, exécuté

*) Graf Robilant erklärte dem griechischen Gesandten bei Ueberreichung dieses Circulars, betreffs Aufhebung der Blokade kein Urtheil fällen zu können, ehe er nicht mit den übrigen theilnehmenden Mächten ins sich Einvernehmen gesetzt; die Initiative zu einem dahin gehenden Vorschlage käme aber England zu. [Gr. 128.]

avec sévérité, paralyse les mouvements du commerce et de la navigation Helléniques. Sur plusieurs points du Royaume le ravitaillement est en souffrance. Allant contre le but qu'il se propose l'investissement entrave la rentrée des corps de troupe et des soldats libérés. || Il ne rentre pas dans le cadre de cette communication de procéder à l'examen des considérations qui ont amené les Grandes Puissances à user d'une mesure coercitive à l'égard de la Grèce. Mais il est évident que le danger résultant des préparatifs militaires de la Grèce une fois écarté, une fois que le Gouvernement Grec, inspiré par les intérêts de la politique nationale — intérêts qui coïncident, à son avis, avec ceux de la paix générale —, a mis toute diligence pour supprimer tout sujet d'alarme, la continuation ultérieure d'une pression qui a déjà provoqué nos réclamations est dorénavant dépourvue des raisons mêmes que les Grandes Puissances lui ont assignées. || Veuillez porter la teneur de cette dépêche à la connaissance du Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité.

Nr. 9187. Griechenland. 31. Mai 1886.

S. Dragumis.

Nr. 9188. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Die deutsche Regierung macht die Aufhebung der Blokade von der Räumung des türkischen Gebiets durch die griechischen Truppen abhängig. [B. IV, 125.]

Berlin, June 1, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that the Circular of the Greek Government of the 31st ultimo was communicated to Count Berchem to-day by the Greek Minister. Count Berchem remarked to me with regard to it, that its tone appeared to be less discourteous than that of the preceding ones, and that it contained assurances, adding, however, that facts were more necessary at present. He did not see, that the raising of the blockade could even be thought of so long as Greek troops were still on Turkish territory, as alleged by the Porte. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9188. England. 1. Juni 1886.

Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9189. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Die englische Regierung hält das griechische Rundschreiben für befriedigend. [B. IV, 126.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, June 1, 1886, 5·50 P.M.

Greek declaration of to-day I am disposed to think sufficient, and should recommend other Powers to take the same view, so as to raise blockade at once, there are no frontier difficulties.

Nr. 9189. England. 1. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9190. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Wien, Rom und St.-Petersburg. — Vorschlag, nach Aufhebung der Blokade die Flotte bis auf weiteres nach der Suda-Bai zurückzuziehen. [B. IV, 132.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, June 2, 1886, 12·45 P.M.

Nr. 9190. England. 2. Juni 1886.

We are of opinion, that the fleet should retire for a short time to Suda Bay when blockade has been raised, and there to watch how disarmament progresses.

Nr. 9191. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Graf Kalnoky hält die sofortige Aufhebung der Blokade für verfrüht*). [B. IV, 138.]

(Telegram.) Vienna, June 2, 1886.

Nr. 9191. England. 2. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, stating that your Lordship is disposed to consider the Greek declaration of the 31st ultimo sufficient, and would recommend the other Powers to take the same view so as to raise the blockade at once if there are not further frontier difficulties. || I called on Count Kálnoky to-day and acquainted him with this telegram, when his Excellency stated that he was quite willing to accept the Circular of the Greek Government as a sufficient announcement to the Powers of the measures for disarmament taken by the Greek Government, but that, before raising the blockade, he thought some certainty should be obtained of there being no risk of further troubles or conflicts taking place on the frontier, for, should such occur after the withdrawal of the ships, it would not be possible to send them back again. The Powers would thus have lost all control over the Greek Government, and the object for which they had brought this pressure to bear on Greece, namely, the maintenance of peace, would be defeated. His Excellency expressed himself as desirous as any one could be to be rid of the blockade; but he thought, that the Powers should not expose themselves to the possibility of being surprised by some incident which might arise after the blockade had been raised, and it did not appear to him that the delay of a few days more or less, which might perhaps be sufficient to bring the Greek Government to a sense of the necessities of their position, was a matter of much importance to the Powers, whose ships were now on the spot. || His Excellency then gave me the

*) Italien erklärte sich mit der englischen Auffassung einverstanden und schlug die Zurückziehung der Flotte nach der Suda-Bay bis zur vollständigen Abrüstung Griechenlands vor [B. IV, 134]; aber nachdem Graf Robilant die Meldung erhalten hatte, dass Griechenland eine wesentlich grössere Streitmacht als vor der Mobilmachung auch jetzt unter den Waffen halten wolle, erklärte er es am 4. Juni für nöthig, dass die Mächte auf ihrer Hut wären. [B. IV, 160.]

Turkish and the Greek Circular to read, and remarked upon the contradiction which existed between the two. || According to the Turkish Circular the danger of further conflicts on the frontier was by no means averted, for the Greeks still kept possession of Zygos. || I have, &c. A. Paget. Nr. 9191. England. 2. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9192. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Berlin, Wien, Rom und St.-Petersburg. — Nach Beilegung aller Schwierigkeiten ist die Fortsetzung der Blokade unbegründet. [B. IV, 145.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, June 3, 1886, 6·5 P. M.

Now that affair of Zygos is at an end, that Greeks have made requisite declaration to Powers, and that process of demobilization is proceeding rapidly, we cannot see that there is any reason for continuance of blockade. || Make representations in this sense to the Government to which you are accredited. Nr. 9192. England. 3. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9193. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Zweifel des Sultans betreffs der griechischen Abrüstung. [B. IV, 176.]

(Telegram.) Constantinople, June 4, 1886.

My Lord, || Your Lordship's telegram of yesterday will probably have crossed Saïd Pasha's telegram of yesterday's date to the Turkish Ambassador in London. || During the course of an audience which I had with the Sultan to-day, His Majesty asked whether I had noticed the condition unter which the suggestion to raise the blockade referred to in Saïd Pasha's telegram had been made. || My reply was to the effect that I had, but believed in the sincere intention ot the Greeks to disarm. His Imperial Majesty told me he doubted this, and added that he had this morning received news by telegraph from the Turkish Commander-in-chief of the concentration of three battalions of Greek troops at Leftokaria. Such a movement seemed to His Majesty contrary to the engagements entered into by Greece. This, I said, was the first news I had received of the movement. || In the subsequent interview with Saïd Pasha, I contended that there seemed no further reason for the continuance of the blockade, to which he replied that though doubting the sincerity of the Greeks, he considered the Powers to be the best judges of the matter. || I have, &c. Edwd. Thornton. Nr. 9193. England. 4. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9194. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Die Pforte schlägt die Aufhebung der Blokade vor.

(Nach der Ausfertigung für den Botschafter in London.) [B. IV, 156; Gr. 130 mit Datum vom 3. Juni.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 4 Juin, 1886.

Nr. 9194. Türkei. 4. Juni 1886.

En présence de la volonté unanime des Grandes Puissances de maintenir la paix et de sauvegarder les droits de l'Empire, et grâce aux mesures efficaces que, dans leur haute prévoyance, elles ont bien voulu prendre pour cet objet, le Gouvernement Hellénique a pris la détermination d'opérer le désarmement en Grèce et de retirer son armée de nos frontières. || Suivant les informations que notre Commandant-en-chef vient de nous transmettre, l'évacuation de notre corps de garde de Zygos, dont l'occupation brusque par les troupes Helléniques vous a été annoncée par mon télégramme du 30 Mai, est, à l'heure qu'il est, un fait accompli. || Ce dernier incident étant ainsi clos pacifiquement, nos autorités militaires ont reçu l'ordre de restituer à leur tour aux Commandants Hellènes les prisonniers faits pendant les derniers combats, et qui sont au nombre de 310*).

Je ne veux pas terminer cette dépêche sans réitérer la satisfaction qu'éprouve le Gouvernement Impérial à voir le Cabinet d'Athènes entrer dans la voie sage et pratique que lui traçaient les circonstances, et sans tenir à déclarer ici combien nous nous plaisons à rendre hommage au concours bienveillant et impartial que les Puissances n'ont cessé, dès le début, de nous prêter en face de l'état de choses anormal qui s'est produit en Grèce, concours dont les résultats se font déjà sentir dans l'intérêt de la paix, du droit et de la légalité. || Dans cette occurrence, le Gouvernement Ottoman se demande si les Puissances, après avoir acquis la certitude que la décision prise par le Cabinet d'Athènes de désarmer serait suivie d'une exécution prompte et sûre, ne croiraient pas opportun, dans leur haute sagesse, de se décider à lever le blocus établi par elles sur les côtes de la Grèce. || En cas d'une conviction pareille, nous ne saurions dissimuler le désir que nous éprouvons d'intercéder auprès d'elles pour que la proposition que nous avons l'honneur de leur faire à ce sujet rencontre un accueil favorable de leur part. || Je vous prie, en conséquence, de vous exprimer dans le sens qui précède auprès de M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, en remettant à son Excellence copie de la présente dépêche, et de m'en faire connaître le résultat.

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*) Einschliesslich 8 Officiere und 2 Unterofficiere. [B. IV, 143.]

Nr. 9195. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Antwort Bismarcks auf den Vorschlag einer Collectivnote an Griechenland. [B. IV, 195.]

Berlin, June 6, 1886.

Nr. 9195. England. 6. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, instructing me to communicate to the Imperial Minister for Foreign Affairs the text of the proposed collective note to the Greek Government with regard to raising the blockade, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the following reply has been received from Prince Bismarck and communicated to my by Count Berchem:—

"We do not see any reason to hurry with an official declaration, principally because the actions of the Greeks change rapidly. We think, that it would be more practical to withdraw the ships and let them await the course of events at Suda Bay. Should Her Majesty's Government, however, consider an immediate declaration necessary, we accede to any in which the other blockading Powers, specially Russia, concur. We attach more importance to maintaining the complete concert of the Powers than to any particular text. We would consent to any text in which the other Powers concur."

Count Berchem also informed me, that instructions had been sent to the Imperial Chargé d'Affaires at Athens to concert with his colleagues, and to sign any note to which all agreed. || I have, &c.

Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9196. DIE GROSSMÄCHTE AUSSER FRANKREICH. — Collectivnote ihrer Vertreter an den griechischen Min. des Auswärt. — Anzeige der Aufhebung der Blokade*). [B. IV, 214; Gr. 137.]

Athènes, le 26 Mai (7 Juin), 1886.

Nr. 9196. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 7. Juni 1886.

Les Soussignés, l'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Russie et les Représentants d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Italie ont été chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs d'informer son Excellence M. Dragoumis, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté Hellénique, qu'à la suite de la communication officielle d'une dépêche de son Excellence, en date du 19 (31) Mai, année courante, relative aux mesures de désarmement prises par le Gouvernement Hellénique ou qu'en vue des assurances pacifiques du Cabinet d'Athènes ressortant de cette communication, les Gouvernements susmentionnés, prenant acte de ces assurances, ont la satisfaction de reconnaître que dans les circonstances actuelles il n'y a plus lieu de prolonger les mesures de rigueur auxquelles ils ont eu recours dans l'intérêt

*) Italien, Oesterreich, Russland hatten sich einverstanden erklärt, ihre verminderten Geschwader einstweilen nach der Suda-Bai zurückzuziehen. [B. IV, 219, 223, 224.]

Nr. 9196. Die Grossmächte ausser Frankreich. 7. Juni 1886.

de la paix générale. || En conséquence, les Soussignés, au nom de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, ont l'honneur d'annoncer à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères que les Commandants des escadres combinées ont reçu l'ordre de lever le blocus des côtes de la Grèce. || Les Soussignés saisissent, &c.

Bützow. Walter Baring.
Leyden. Rossi Toesca.
Velies.

Nr. 9197. GRIECHENLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Grossmächte ausser Frankreich in Athen. — Anzeige des Empfangs der Collectivnote.

(Nach der Ausfertigung für den englischen Vertreter.) [B. IV, 214.]

Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, Athènes, le 26 Mai (7 Juin), 1886.

Nr. 9197. Griechenland. . Juni 1886.

Le Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, a l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note collective en date d'aujourd'hui, par laquelle M. l'Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Russie et MM. les Représentants d'Allemagne, d'Autriche-Hongrie, de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Italie l'ont informé, au nom de leurs Gouvernements respectifs, que les Commandants des escadres combinées ont reçu l'ordre de lever le blocus des côtes de la Grèce. || Le Soussigné saisit, &c.

E. Dragoumis.

Nr. 9198. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Athen. — Befehl, nach Athen zurückzukehren*). [B. IV, 218.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, June 8, 1886, 1·39 P.M.

Nr. 9198. England. 8. Juni 1886.

The blockade has now been raised, and you are therefore instructed to return to your post. You will proceed on board Her Majesty's ship "Humber", which is ready to convey you to Athens.

*) Der italienische Gesandte erhielt schon am 5. Juni den Befehl zur Rückkehr nach Athen. [Gr. 136.]

Bulgarische Revolution*).

Nr. 9199. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Parteien und die Stellung der Regierung in Bulgarien. [B. 9.]

Sophia, May 1, 1886.

Nr. 9199. England. 1. Mai 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from the British Vice-Consul at Rustchuk, stating that the adherents of M. Zancoff in that town were of opinion, that the opposition should be conducted on patriotic principles, and more especially without looking to Russia for assistance.

I have been informed, that M. Zancoff has addressed a Circular to his adherents, calling upon them to hold meetings to oppose the policy of the Government, and to exert themselves to secure the return of Opposition Members in the forthcoming elections in Eastern Roumelia. I understand, however, that M. Zancoff has perceived the necessity of ceasing his hostility to the Prince personally. The soldiers and volunteers engaged in the war, who have now returned to their homes, have instilled such a feeling of admiration for His Highness throughout the country, that any action directed against His Highnees personally would meet with the strongest disapprobation. M. Zancoff, therefore, has been obliged to change his tactics, and merely to oppose the Government. It does not appear, however, that his party ceases to look to Russia for assistance, and I am informed, on the contrary, that M. Zancoff has suggested that a large meeting should be held at Rustchuk for the purpose of considering the advisability of sending a deputation to wait upon the Emperor of Russia during His Majesty's residence at Livadia.

The Conservative party, who, on the formation of the present Ministry, had formed an alliance with M. Zancoff for the purpose of opposing M. Karaveloff, seem now to be undecided as to the course they should take. In the

*) Die Aktenstücke sind entnommen aus dem Blaubuche Turkey 1887 I (in den Ueberschriften B) und dem Grünbuche vom 23. November 1886 Bulgaria (in den Ueberschriften Gr.).

Nr. 9199. England. 1. Mai 1886.

opinion of some of the leaders of that party with whom I have had an opportunity of speaking, it would be a great mistake, from a party point of view, to attempt to turn out the Government at present. Such an attempt might be taken as a disapproval both of the war and of the union, and consequently of the action of the Prince himself, and they think it would be better to allow the present Government to begin dealing with the financial and commercial questions, which will present very great difficulties, and may afford a better opportunity of opposing them.

The position of M. Karaveloff, therefore, in spite of M. Zancoff's opposition, would seem to be strong if his Cabinet were united; but there are great doubts as to this being the case. M. Tsanoff, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has announced his intention of leaving the Ministry immediately after the meeting of the Chamber. His Excellency was very much hurt at being disavowed and recalled from Constantinople, and is anxious to have an opportunity of justifying his conduct, which he is unable to do as long as he remains in the Cabinet. The Minister of Justice is also said to be undermining M. Karaveloff's positions in the hope of becoming Prime Minister himself, and it appears that the extreme Radicals, who have hitherto supported M. Karaveloff, are now turning against him. The general opinion seems to be, that M. Karaveloff may still count upon a large majority in the present Chamber. He is said, however, to be very unpopular in Eastern Roumelia, and that it is not impossible that the elections in that country may go against him, and it is probably with the view of influencing popular opinion in that country that he insisted upon accompanying Prince Alexander during His Highness' tour. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9200. **ENGLAND.** — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Bericht über die Vorstellung des russischen Generalconsuls in Philippopel beim Fürsten Alexander. [B. 20.]

Philippopoli, May 7, 1886.

Nr. 9200. England. 7. Mai 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that M. Iggelström, acting as Russian Consul-General here, paid yesterday, for the first time, his official visit, in uniform, to Prince Alexander, having received instructions to this effect by telegram, about an hour before, from the Embassy at Constantinople. This action is reported to have caused much despondency in the ranks of the disaffected here, who expected that the Russian Government would continue to maintain towards the Prince the attitude of reserve which it has hitherto assumed. || I am given to understand, that the interview, though formal, was friendly. || I have, &c. Henry M. Jones.

Nr. 9201. ENGLAND. — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Fürst Alexander über seine Lage. [B. 21.]

(Private.) Philippopoli, May 7, 1886.

Nr. 9201. England. 7. Mai 1886.

Dear Sir Edward, || I had a long conversation with the Prince Alexander yesterday at a private interview, and I took the occasion to learn from His Highness something on the subjects which at present engage popular attention here.

1. The Budget as just proposed.

2. The discontent alleged (by the party hostile to the Prince) to exist in the army;

3. The attitude of the said party and of the press which represents its views;

4. The action of the Greeks and Turks in the coming elections; and

5. The arrangements made for the interior administration of the province.

The Prince's situation under existing circumstances requires, that, to maintain himself as Head of the Government, he should be able to rely on the support of the people, that is, the peasantry, and its truest representative, the militia. It is therefore incumbent on him to conciliate these by all reasonable means, that in the case of the former the fiscal burdens should be as little onerous as possible, and that no just cause of discontent should be suffered to exist among the latter. I therefore spoke first of the Budget, which, as recently announced, gave rise to much dissatisfaction here. His Highnees explained, that the estimates therein given were merely conjectural, and would be considerably modified in Committee as soon as the General Assembly met at Sophia. That for the rest the people of this province paid in taxation considerably less in proportion than their countrymen of the Principality, on whose shoulders had fallen a great excess of the charges consequent on the union; that a large sum would be required to complete the reorganization of the Roumelian militia, but that every possible economy would be exercised in the domestic administration. || Respecting this I shall enter into further details in a despatch which I am preparing on the subject of the Provincial Budget; but I may here observe, that the sum of 265,160 fr., under the heading of "Account of Supreme Government," as stated in my despatch of the 27th ultimo, is not intended solely for the Prince's use, his salary as Governor-General remaining the same as that of his predecessor, but goes also to pay the salaries of the elected Members of the Assembly according to the Organic Law of the province.

I inquired of His Highness as to the discontent which was reported to exist in certain brigades of the militia. He explained, that this applied to one brigade only, that quartered at Bazardjik, and was caused deliberately by its Commandant, Major Stoyanoff, who neglected to draw from the Treasury

Nr. 9201. England. 7. Mai 1886.

the pay due to his men, although expressly ordered to do so, endeavouring in this way to foment amongst the troops an evil feeling against the Government. He excuses his apparent neglect by asserting that he had mislaid the warrant and forgotten all about it; but the Prince is resolved to remove him from the army on the first occasion. This little incident will serve to show the ramifications of the hostile intrigues against the Prince.

We spoke next of the conduct of the Opposition and the insolence of the local journals, its organs. I remarked, that a semi-Oriental, half-civilized nation such as this could only regard the impunity accorded to such offensive publications as a proof of weakness or timidity on the part of its rulers. || His Highness agreed with me, but explained that in Bulgaria, where there is a Press Law, its action was so dilatory that even three months might pass before a Judgment was given, and the journal affected would in the meanwhile continue its abuse more violently than ever. || Here, in Roumelia, the Organic Statute guarantees the liberty of the press, but with a proviso that a law defining it was to have been passed in the very first Session of the Assembly. Such a law was passed; but the Porte refused to sanction it, and required the province to adopt the Turkish Press Law in its entirety. This the Provincial Government refused to do, and so the nuisance of the local press remains unchecked.

Respecting the action of the malcontents, the Prince seemed only concerned lest, in the event of their getting a majority in the elections, they might, as they threaten, refuse to join the Bulgarian Representatives or to recognize their decisions as legal or binding on the province. There is now, however, good reason to hope, that such a contingency is unlikely, and that the Prince's supporters will be generally chosen in the province, the effects of his tour pointing in this direction. || I spoke of the Petition which the Greeks have here addressed to the Consulates on the subject of their grievances. His Highness observed, that it had been found impracticable to carry out the provisions of the Organic Statute as regards the legal recognition of the languages of the minorities; there were not sufficient functionaries qualified to administer justice, &c., in their respective languages to Greeks, Turks and Bulgarians, as stipulated therein. Indeed, such an arrangement would only tend to perpetuate an *imperium in imperio*, rendering all regular government impracticable. The minorities must make up their minds to become Bulgarian subjects, participating equally with all in sharing the public burdens and the public benefits. || I may here observe, that the Turks of the province lately inquired at Constantinople what side they should take in the coming elections, and I am informed they have been advised to support the candidates favourable to the Prince. It is not easy to foresee the course which the Greeks will take, but most probably their national prejudices will induce them to oppose everything Bulgarian, in whatever shape it may be presented to them.

We then spoke of the arrangement for the future internal administration

of this province, and the exceptional position now held here by the Prefects. In criticizing some suggestions of mine on this subject, the Prince explained that it is his intention to, as far as lies in his power, amalgamate and render homogeneous the Bulgarians north and south of the Balkans, tolerating no distinction whatever in their system of administration. He would not have two capitals in the country, but would maintain Sophia as the sole centre of authority. That Philippopoli should differ in no way from the other Prefectures, as any exceptional privileges or favours accorded to it would but serve to encourage the separate theories now put ostentatiously forward by the faction hostile to himself, and sustained by their foreign abettors. The Prince appeared to me to take throughout a favourable view of his position, which, indeed, is justified by the results hitherto of his tour in the province. He left this place for Hasskeui yesterday, and will follow then the foot of the Balkans to Bourgas, returning here (I believe) towards the end of the month. || I am, &c.

Henry M. Jones.

Nr. 9201. England. 7. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9202. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Missstimmung in Ostrumelien gegen die bulgarische Regierung. [B. 19.]

(Extract.) Constantinople, May 10, 1886.

I learn from a person who is well acquainted with the principal people in Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, that in the latter province great discontent prevails, and that it is not at all unlikely that during the elections, which are to take place on the 23rd instant, there will be serious disturbances. || This discontent is generally attributed to the measures which have been taken by M. Karaveloff since the Turkish Governor-General was expelled from that country. At that time the Eastern Roumelian officials, who were some of the best men whom the province contained, were all dismissed, and were replaced by others of a very inferior class, and even sometimes Bulgarians, who were entirely ignorant of the people and the business with which they had to deal, and who are consequently treated with very little sympathy. In one instance, even, I am told, that the whole of the professors and teachers in a Gymnasium in Eastern Roumelia were transferred to a similar establishment in Bulgaria, whose staff were sent to replace them in the Eastern Roumelian Gymnasium. || The Eastern Roumelians consider themselves a far superior and more intelligent race than their countrymen in Bulgaria. || Under these circumstances, it can easily be conceived that the ex-employés of the late Eastern Roumelian Government were in a state of great discontent and distress; still they have great influence in the country, and it is very probable that they will form a powerful and strong opposition to the Government candidates. It is even said, that should they succeed in carrying the elections

Nr. 9202. England. 10. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9202. England. 10. Mai 1886.

against the latter they will refuse to join the Assembly in Sophia, and will stand out for the complete separation of the two Governments. || The Budget which has been recently issued has not tended to weaken the discontent, and its complete silence with regard to the Eastern Roumelian tribute is not satisfactory either to the Sublime Porte or to the British bondholders. || Prince Alexander is said to have very engaging manners, and during the progress which he is now making through the province he may succeed in gaining the affections of the people, and in correcting some of the errors which have been committed by his Prime Minister. But it is very doubtful whether the Eastern Roumelians are disposed to be conciliated.

Nr. 9203. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander lehnt eine türkischerseits vorgeschlagene Reise nach Constantinopel vorläufig ab. [B. 14.]

Sophia, May 14, 1886.

Nr. 9203. England. 14. Mai 1886.

My Lord, || Prince Alexander has addressed a telegram to his Private Secretary, of which the following is the substance:—

"I beg you to state, that Gadban Effendi has recently requested me in the name of the Porte to proceed to Constantinople. I have replied, that the internal state of the country renders it absolutely impossible for me to absent myself at present, and that I am very strongly of opinion that my visit to Constantinople should at all events not take place before the autumn."

I have been informed, that the suggestion that His Highness should go to Constantinople originated probably with Gadban Effendi himself, and not with the Porte, and that the Grand Vizier considers that the Prince's visit at present would be very inopportune, and is much relieved at His Highness' decision.

I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9204. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über einen gegen den Fürsten und dessen Minister geplanten Anschlag. [B. 18.]

Sophia, May 19, 1886.

Nr. 9204. England. 19. Mai 1886.

My Lord, || The following information respecting the plot against the life of Prince Alexander has been given me by M. Tsanow. || A Russian officer, M. Nabokoff, who had formerly served in the Eastern Roumelian Militia, three Montenegrins, one of whom was a priest, and three Bulgarians, were the conspirators. It was one of the latter who disclosed the plot. Their plan was to waylay Prince Alexander on the road between Aïdos and Bourgas, and to take him on board ship, alive if possible, but if not, dead; to kill M. Kara-

veloff and M. Zancoff, the Prefect of Bourgas; and to stir up a revolution in order to furnish an excuse for a Russian occupation. || M. Karaveloff had given orders, that the Russian officer and the Montenegrins who were implicated in the plot should be sent out of the country; but M. Tsanow, as Acting Minister of the Interior, has countermanded these orders, and has instructed the Prefect of Bourgas to keep them in custody. The Russian Vice-Consul at Bourgas has applied officially for the release of M. Nabokoff and the Montenegrin Pope, but has been informed that they are now in the hands of the judicial authorities under an accusation of having plotted against the life of Prince Alexander, and that it is impossible to release them. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9204. England. 19. Mai 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9205. **ENGLAND.** — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. Bericht über die Persönlichkeiten und Pläne der verhafteten Verschwörer. [B. 24.]

Bourgas, Mai 19, 1886.

Nr. 9205. England. 19. Mai 1886.

Sir, || I had the honour to send your Excellency yesterday, the 18th instant, a cypher telegram of which the following is the substance:—

"Several Bulgarian Notables were arrested here to-day on a charge of complicity in a plot against the Prince and his Minister of Foreign Affairs, involving a plan of carrying off the latter to the mountains. || The house of a Russian officer, who has been here for the last four months on leave, has been surrounded by the police, who have refused admission to the Dragoman of the Russian Consulate. The local authorities intend to deport the said officer by the Russian steamer to-morrow. Will send the details by post."

On Monday night and early on Tuesday morning (17th and 18th instant), five of the leading Bulgarian Notables of this town were suddenly put under arrest, while a body of thirty police was sent to surround the house of Captain Nabokoff (the Russian officer mentioned in my telegram), with strict orders to allow no one to leave it. The names of the persons arrested are Dimitri Brakaloff, formerly Mayor of Bourgas; Sawa Hadji Detcheff, a large landed proprietor; Shishmanoff, an ex-officer of militia; Guaranoff, a lawyer and editor of the "Bourgaski Vesnik," the local newspaper, a journal notorious for its strong pro-Russian proclivities; and Kollaroff, a schoolmaster; a warrant has also been issued for the apprehension of a certain M. Malakoff, formerly a Superintendent of the Woods and Forests Department in this district, but that gentleman has succeeded in eluding hitherto the vigilance of the police. Captain Nabokoff is an officer in the Russian army, who for five years commanded a battalion in the Aïdos Militia, and resigned his commission at the outbreak of the Unionist movement when so many of his compatriots left the country. Some four months ago he returned to Bourgas, saying that he had

Nr. 9205. England. 19. Mai 1886.

obtained leave for the arrangement of private affairs, and has remained here ever since. His prolonged stay here, the fact of his continually absenting himself for the purpose of making short tours in the neighbouring villages, ostensibly for the sake of the shooting, which, however, at this time of the year is hardly probable, coupled with the fact that he is known to spend a good deal more money than a young officer of his rank would be likely to command, have combined to give rise to the suspicion that he is a secret Russian political agent. Latterly he has, on one or two occasions, been most indiscreet in his utterances on political topics in places of public resort, a fact which certainly ought not to strengthen the general opinion that he is a secret Government Agent. A few days ago only he made use of some very abusive language concerning the Prince and the Bulgarian nation in a public café, for which, had it not been for the prompt interference of the police, he would have been very roughly handled by some Bulgarians who were present. The affair was taken up very warmly by the Prefect, who informed the Russian Vice-Consul, in Captain Nabokoff's presence, that, if he (Nabokoff) were not for the future more respectful in his language and general behaviour, he would be expelled from Eastern Roumelia or "interné" (interned) in some town in the interior, Slivno being named. The Prefect also spoke to me on one occasion on the subject of Captain Nabokoff's behaviour, and declared most positively that he had almost made up his mind to expel him from Bourgas, be the consequences what they might. || Besides Captain Nabokoff, two Montenegrins, one of whom is a priest, who invariably accompanied Nabokoff wherever he went, are now under arrest on the same charge. The six men above mentioned, Captain Nabokoff, and the two Montenegrins, are all accused, on the evidence of a man named Giorghi Markoff, formerly Mayor of the village of Allagyünü, of conspiring to assassinate His Highness the Prince, M. Karaveloff, the Prefect of Bourgas, and also, it is said, a certain Tranchoff Hadji Petroff, one of the Notables of this town, at a place called Kandjuk Déré, just beyond the small town of Ligia, about 10 miles out on the Aïdos road. Guaranoff, the lawyer, who appears to have been the chief conspirator, engaged the man Giorghi Markoff to take an active part in the crime, because, having had in the past professional knowledge of certain shady passages in Markoff's career, he thought that he would find in him a pliant and unscrupulous instrument for the execution of his nefarious purposes. In this, however, he was mistaken, for Markoff, when informed of the plot, went and revealed it to the authorities, who at once made the arrest above described.

The Russian Vice-Consul, M. Emilianoff, on hearing what the authorities had done with regard to Captain Nabokoff, went to the house of that officer and demanded to be admitted into his presence, which the officer in command of the police refused to allow. || M. Emilianoff then addressed himself to the civil authorities and preferred the same request, which was again refused. He applied at last to the Military Commandant, but without any greater success,

he being informed that Captain Nabokoff's house would be kept in a state of "blockade" until further orders to the contrary were received from higher authorities. Nr. 9205. England. 19. Mai 1886.

As regards my telegram, your Excellency will perceive, that I make mention of a plan to carry off M. Karaveloff to the mountains. This project, which was actually entertained at first, was subsequently abandoned in favour of the more criminal design now attributed to the accused. I also stated in my telegram, that it was the intention of the authorities to send Captain Nabokoff away by the Russian steamer on Wednesday morning. This, I am informed on very good authority, was the original plan; but, on mature consideration, it was decided to keep him here. On both these points I had the honour to communicate with your Excellency by telegram this morning. || As regards the evidence on which the charge brought against the prisoner rests, besides, of course, the statements of the man Markoff, I have reason to believe, on very good authority, that it is complete and very convincing. Markoff's evidence alone, if reliable, is sufficient of itself, I am informed, to obtain a conviction; but the authorities have, in addition, documentary proofs of the most damnatory character. I must acknowledge, that many people here who are generally well informed entertain serious doubts as to the existence of a plot at all; but others, equally, if not more, competent to judge, are of opinion that the existence of a conspiracy the object of which was to assassinate the Prince cannot be called in question; but that whether Captain Nabokoff, as well as all of those now in confinement were implicated in the plot or not, is another matter which it is much more difficult to decide. || Any further news which may reach me on this subject I shall not fail to communicate to your Excellency. || I have &c. W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9206. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Mächte in Sophia. — Anzeige über die entdeckte Verschwörung gegen das Leben des Fürsten und des Ministerpräsidenten*). [B. 25.]

(Nach der Ausfertigung für den englischen Vertreter.)

(Circulaire.) Sophia, le 9 (21) Mai, 1886.

Le Ministère Princier des Affaires Étrangères a l'honneur de communiquer ci-après à l'Honorable Agence et Consulat-Général d'Angleterre la teneur d'une Nr. 9206. Bulgarien. 21. Mai 1886.

*) Die Vertreter der Mächte beantworteten diese Anzeige mit einer gemeinsamen Glückwunschnote. [B. 25.]

Das Journal de St.-Pétersbourg vom 27. Mai (8. Juni) brachte dazu folgende Auslassung:

Les correspondances de Bulgarie ne cessent d'entretenir les journaux étrangers du

Nr. 9206. Bulgarien. 21. Mai 1886.

Dépêche-Circulaire adressée à toutes les Préfectures par le Département de l'Intérieur:—

"Un complot vient d'être découvert à Bourgas, dirigé contre la vie de Son Altesse et du Ministre-Président, à la suite d'un avis donné par un individu qui, appelé en cette ville par les conspirateurs sous prétexte d'autres affaires, fut invité à y prendre part. || Parmi les accusés, arrêtés jusqu'à ce jour, il y a un nombre considérable d'étrangers qui, avec quelques indigènes, se trouvent entre les mains de la justice. || La présente communication vous est faite dans le but de lui donner toute publicité afin de faire cesser les commentaires de toute sorte qui commencent à être répandus. Dès que l'enquête judiciaire sera terminée, le résultat sera porté à votre connaissance."

Nr. 9207. **ENGLAND.** — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Bericht über Aufnahme und Reden des Fürsten und Karaweloffs in Burgas. [B. 30.]

Bourgas, Mai 23, 1886.

Nr. 9207. England. 23. Mai 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that His Highness Prince Alexander left Bourgas yesterday evening by an Austrian Lloyd steamer (which had been sent expressly for him) for Varna. His Highness before leaving expressed himself extremely gratified at the enthusiastic reception he had met with here, assuring his hearers, the Prefect and other members of the Local Government, that nowhere with the exception of Philippopoli had he received so warm a welcome. In token of this satisfaction the Prince gave decorations to the Prefect, his host M. Presenti, the Postmaster, and one or two others. During the morning His Highness made a short speech to a

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"complot" qui aurait été tramé contre la vie du Prince Alexandre, et dans lequel on impliquait un ancien capitaine Russe, M. Nabokow, un prêtre et des Monténégrins. Nous n'avons voulu accueillir ces assertions qu'avec une extrême réserve, sachant ce que la haine des partis à des époques agitées, au moment des élections, comporte d'inventions de la part des uns, de crédulité de la part des autres. On pouvait croire que, les élections terminées, il ne serait plus question de cette prétendue conspiration, qui aura rempli son but. Mais, puisque nos confrères de l'Occident se plaisent à y revenir, il nous semble enfin bon de constater, sur la foi de renseignements, puisés à bonne source, que la vie du Prince Alexandre ne courait absolument aucun risque du fait du Capitaine Nabokow, qui est un homme parfaitement honorable et paisible à la fois; que la nouvelle de la conspiration a été propagée seulement pour des besoins électoraux, en vue d'agir sur les esprits naïfs et simples de la population, et que l'invention du complot doit être rangée parmi les moyens employés par le Gouvernement Bulgare pour témoigner une fois de plus de cette belle "indépendance du coeur" qui le caractérise. Quant à nos confrères de la presse étrangère, ils arriveront peut-être un jour à reconnaître que ce n'est pas la première fois depuis neuf mois qu'on les a rendus instruments et complices de ces ténébreuses machinations.

large crowd of Bulgarians, in the course of which he assured his hearers, in reply to eagerly repeated inquiries, that the union was a *fait accompli.* Nr. 9207. England. 23. Mai 1886.

I should also mention that, M. Karaveloff made a somewhat remarkable speech to a large and enthusiastic Bulgarian audience, the gist of which appears to have been as follows: "Friends and brothers, you ask me whether the union of the two Bulgarias is an accomplished fact. I am glad to be able to assure you, that it is; any one who denies this is an enemy of Bulgaria and a scoundrel. || Brothers, you have fought gloriously hitherto, and by your own valour have obtained what you fought for; but the Bulgarian mission is not accomplished yet. Adrianople and Salonica are still before you; let Bulgarian powers conquer the whole country which lies between these two cities. I hope, that the law-suits respecting the proprietorship of land now pending here will soon be settled. You know, perhaps, that a Law has recently been passed in Bulgaria according to which no one may in future possess more than 500 denums (about 200 acres) of land. This Law is in reality in force in this country too," &c. || I should add, that the official version of this speech omits all mention of Adrianople and Salonica, for which it substitutes the vaguer and less pointed remark: "Bulgarian union is not yet complete. We have many brethren still languishing in bondage on a foreign soil. Let it be our task to liberate them and unite them with ourselves." || It should be remembered, however, that this speech was addressed to a crowd consisting chiefly of peasants, on the eve of an election, and it was a matter of great importance to M. Karaveloff to gain the suffrages as well as sympathies of the electors in favour of the Government candidates. || I have, &c.

W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9208. **ENGLAND.** — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Der russische Hauptmann Nabokoff ist von der Polizei in Burgas freigelassen. [B. 32.]

Bourgas, May 23, 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, with reference to my despatch of the 19th instant, that yesterday evening, about an hour after the departure of His Highness the Prince, the cordon of police which had been stationed round the house of the Russian officer, Captain Nabokoff, since the previous Tuesday, was removed, thus leaving that officer at liberty to leave the house should he wish to do so; he went almost immediately to the Russian Consulate. || I have good reason to believe, that this action on the part of the authorities was in consequence of a formal protest made by the Russian Vice-Consul in person in the course of an interview he had with His Highness on the previous day. || I am also informed, that the Russian Vice-Consul demanded the release of the two Montenegrins who are in prison on the charge of having Nr. 9208. England. 23. Mai 1886.

Nr. 9208. England. 23. Mai 1886.

plotted against the life of the Prince, on the ground that they were under Russian protection; but this plea was disallowed and these men are still in confinement. || I have, &c. W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9209. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander hat eine Note der Pforte in türkischer Sprache zurückgewiesen. [B. 26.]

Sophia, May 27, 1886.

Nr. 9209. England. 27. Mai 1886.

My Lord, || M. Tsanow has informed me confidentially, that Prince Alexander has recently received a letter from the Porte addressed in Turkish, to the Government of Eastern Roumelia, and that His Highness had sent him this letter, with instructions to return it to the Porte, and to request that all communications addressed to His Highness may be made in the French language. || M. Tsanow, fearing that the sending back of the letter might give offence to the Porte, has suggested that, instead of doing so, he should instruct the Bulgarian Agent at Constantinople to represent to the Grand Vizier, through the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that, as the administration of Eastern Roumelia has been intrusted to the Prince of Bulgaria, with whom the Porte has always communicated in the French language, His Highness could not admit the right of the Porte to address him officially in Turkish. No effect, therefore, could be given to the letter in question, and the Bulgarian Agent should be instructed to request that, for the future, all communications with regard to Eastern Roumelia should be addressed in French, either to His Highness personally, or to the responsible Ministers, through whom he governed the province. || M. Tsanow now informs me, that the Prince has approved of this suggestion, and that a note in the above sense has been addressed to the Bulgarian Agent at Constantinople. In the meantime, two further letters have been received by Prince Alexander, who has forwarded them unopened to M. Tsanow. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9210. ENGLAND. — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Bericht über die Wahlen in Ostrumelien. [B. 35.]

Philippopoli, June 3, 1886.

Nr. 9210. England. 3. Juni 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to report to your Excellency the following results of the supplementary elections held in this province on Sunday last. || Forty-nine seats still remained to be contested from the elections of the preceding Sunday. Of these, 24 have been gained by friends of the Government, 17 by the Opposition, and 5 are held by neutrals — peasants whose opinions are

still undecided. In the general total, therefore, the Government party holds 61 seats, the Opposition 22, and 5 are neutral as yet. || The Turks maintained throughout their resolution to take no part in the elections, encouraged in this by the influence of their "kiatibs" (scribes), who find themselves deprived of employment and without occupation since the Bulgarian language alone is now recognized in the public Departments and Tribunals. || The Greeks, on the other hand, contested every district where they had a chance of success, and they succeeded in returning a Member for Anchialo. At Kevakli, where they had hoped to return two Members, riot and disorder were so rampant that no result could be obtained. This district will, in consequence, remain unrepresented in the next Session of the General Assembly. || I am obliged, with much regret, to state that scenes of violence and bloodshed similar to those which happened the Sunday preceding occurred on this occasion, and although by no means of the appalling nature which the partisans of Russia would make them appear, yet sufficiently nefarious in any case to reflect all ignominy on those concerned, and not least on the authorities, to whose timidity and irresolution they must mainly be accredited. || I have, &c.

Henry M. Jones.

Nr. 9210. England. 3. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9211. **ENGLAND.** — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Bericht über blutige Auftritte und andere Unregelmässigkeiten bei den Wahlen in Ostrumelien. [B. 39.]

Bourgas, June 6, 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that, from all I hear, it would appear, that the recent elections for the Sobranié have in many cases been fruitful of most bitter dissensions, in some places, as at Yeni Zaghra, among the Bulgarians themselves; the Government party being confronted by those who espouse the Russian cause, at others between the Bulgarians on the one side and Greeks and Turks on the other. These dissensions, I regret to say, have in a few cases resulted in open strife and bloodshed, and even in the death of some of their participants. From Yeni Zaghra twelve deaths are recently reported, the result of a conflict between the Government partisans and the pro-Russian party; at Karnabad and Yamboli there was fighting, but fortunately with no fatal consequences, and now we hear that Karakli has been the scene of a serious conflict. At Karakli, a town lying about half-way between Yamboli and Adrianople, and within a short distance of the Turkish frontier, there was, I am informed by an eye-witness, on the 29th ultimo a long and sharply-contested struggle between Bulgarians and Greeks, which resulted, in spite of the intervention of the gendarmes, in the death of one man and the more or less serious disablement of 100 others.

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The number of the wounded is stated to have been, though possibly exaggerated, as many as 60 on the side of the Greeks and 56 on that of the Bulgarians. || At Abialos, a small seaport town about 8 miles to the north-east of Bourgas, the Greek population, which is very largely predominant, was so intimidated by Bulgarian gendarmes and local Government emissaries that they refused to vote at all, leaving the Bulgarian Government candidate to be returned without opposition. || Here in Bourgas, I am told on good authority, very few Greeks and no Turks have voted, and their example has been followed in many other parts of the Department. || On the whole it is, I believe, an undeniable fact, and one much to be regretted, that, though the recent elections have in the great majority of cases resulted in a manner most favourable to the Government, yet a vast deal of animosity and race-hatred have been stirred up, of which the consequences in the not very distant future may be most serious. || I have, &c. W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9212. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Giers betrachtet die Lage in Bulgarien als beunruhigend; er erklärt die Beschuldigung Nabokoffs für Verleumdung und erklärt dessen Verhaftung und Aburtheilung durch bulgarische Gerichte als einen Vertragsbruch. [B. 49.]

St. Petersburgh, June 9, 1886.

Nr. 9212. England. 9. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || When I congratulated M. de Giers to-day on the happy termination of the two questions which had for so many months kept European diplomacy so actively engaged, and expressed the hope, that we might now have a quiet summer, his Excellency, fervently re-echoing this sentiment, observed, that there unfortunately still remained a strong ferment of agitation amongst the populations for the moment appeased, and he especially adverted to Bulgaria, and to the recklessness of what he termed the ultra-Radical elements who surrounded Prince Alexander, as the most dangerous point on the horizon. He believed, that the party now in power, or at least some of them, were aiming at a declaration of independence, and, if such a step were taken, the so-called Bulgarian question would arise once more in its most acute form. He believed Prince Alexander understood his interests too well to favour such a project; but he did not feel sure, that His Highness would remain master of the situation. || I observed that I thought it was one of the great advantages of having Prince Alexander as Regent of the two Principalities, instead of a native Prince or the nominee of one of the Great Powers more immediately interested in the Eastern question, that, being personally in touch, as it were, with many of the influential Powers interested in that question, his action and influence could not, in the eyes of his subjects, even amongst

the most headstrong and unreflecting, but carry with them the weight of European opinion.

His Excellency then described, with some warmth, the proceedings of the Bulgaro-Roumelian Government in connection with the late attempt to incriminate M. Nabokoff in a conspiracy, against the life of Prince Alexander. When he first read the telegram announcing the conspiracy, and stating that a Russian officer was concerned in it, he had felt seriously alarmed, for he admitted that, out of some 300 Russian officers who had been recalled from the Principalities, it was not impossible that there might be here and there a desperate character capable of anything; and he felt how great would be the disgrace, and how deep the stain on Russian honour, if the accusation proved to be true. || As soon, however, as he learnt, that the accused officer was M. Nabokoff, the nephew of the late Minister of Justice, one of his Excellency's most intimate friends, and, as such, a young man with whose antecedents and character he had the means of fully acquainting himself, he at once knew that the accusation must have been the result of some infamous denunciation. The official reports he had since received, and a letter from the young officer himself, portions of which his Excellency read out to me, had shown that he was entirely right. || The following, according to his Excellency, is what happened:—

M. Nabokoff was one of the Russian officers who had served in the Roumelian army. He had been extremely popular, and had made many friends in the country, in which he took a lively interest. He had gone back to Bourgas for a stay of some weeks to visit his old friends. As a matter of course he was a man of strong Russian feelings, of which he made no secret, and his friends, equally as a matter of course, belonged to the Opposition. || The Government, in consequence, were anxious to get rid of his presence during the elections. There was, however, no legal pretext on which they could do so, and so recourse was had to denunciation. || According to M. Nabokoff's letter, a number of persons dropped in upon him one evening, presumably belonging to the Opposition, probably leading members of it, but amongst them a certain Michailoff ("le coquin qui l'a dénoncé," as M. de Giers described him, and an individual noted in a bad sense). || As they were proposing to leave, Nabokoff, in Russian fashion, invited them to stay for supper, amongst others, the Archimandrite. This ecclesiastical dignitary pleaded a fearful headache, and wished to retire. Nabokoff, however, persuaded him to stay. "Do," he said, "as we do in Russia. With us we consider there is no cure for a headache like a good drinking bout." The Archimandrite stayed, and there was a good drinking bout, in which Nabokoff fully admits that he spoke with warmth on the situation, in the terms and language which a Russian officer would naturally use in reference to late political events, and declaimed against the ingratitude of Bulgaria towards Russia, who had saved her from the dominion of the Turks; but, he adds, this was language which

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he had used openly before, and which formed the staple of conversation, public and private, amongst the members of the Opposition who were his friends. || Some hours after the party had separated, and when he was in bed, he was awoke, and found that the house he lived in was surrounded by police. An officer came into his room and demanded his sword. He hesitated for a moment whether he should give it up; but, as it was demanded by an officer in uniform, who clearly represented the constituted authority, he gave it up. He endeavoured to ascertain what was the cause of these proceedings, but was not told. || For three days he remained deprived of his liberty, the house in which he lived being "cernée" by the police, and no notice of his arrest given to the Vice-Consul. The Vice-Consul was then told that he was at liberty, but that he must leave the country.

M. de Giers, however, did not see the matter in this light, nor was he minded to let it remain there. A Russian officer had been accused of an infamous crime; he would insist upon his trial, and upon the matter being thus sifted to the bottom. Roumelia being still within the system of the Capitulations, his Excellency has demanded the trial of Nabokoff by a Russian Consular Court at Bourgas. || The above is, I believe, a correct account of what M. de Giers stated to me to-day, though there may be inaccuracies in detail, such, for instance, as to whether the arrest took place the same night as the supper, or on a later occasion, a point on which I am not quite clear. || I have given the account in great detail, because a conflict of this kind may become serious, and turn out to be the beginning of troubles. || I shall only add one or two details given me by M. de Giers. One was that the Russian Consul at Sophia or Philippopoli, I did not catch which, had telegraphed to say the other Consuls were going jointly to congratulate the Prince on his escape from assassination, and had asked whether he should join in the demonstration; and he was at once instructed to do so. || Lastly, the Vice-Consul at Bourgas had been received in audience by the Prince, by whom he had been treated with great courtesy and friendliness, and before whom he laid the true facts concerning the Nabokoff incident, pointing out the evil effects that might result from such high-handed and imprudent action on the part of the authorities. || His Highness deplored that he was wholly impotent ("impuissant") in such matters, from which M. de Giers seemed to infer that the Prince was losing his hold on the revolutionary elements which had assisted him to power. || I have, &c. R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9213. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Ansicht des Grossveziers betreffs der Frage des von Bulgarien und Ostrumelien zu zahlenden Tributs. [B. 37.]

Constantinople, June 10, 1886.

Nr. 9213. England. 19. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || In a conversation which I had with the Grand Vizier on the 8th instant, I inquired of his Highness what were the views of the Sublime

Porte with regard to the tribute to be paid by Eastern Roumelia and Bulgaria to the Ottoman Government, and whether it would not be advisable that the Commission which is to be charged with the revision of the Eastern Roumelian Organic Statute should also be instructed to take into consideration and decide upon the amount of the tribute to be paid by Bulgaria. || His Highness replied, that the Commission could have nothing to do with the question of the Bulgarian tribute, and that, as far as the Eastern Roumelian tribute was concerned, they would be instructed to maintain that it should be paid to the same amount and in the same way as had been the case under the previous Governors-General and in accordance with the provisions of the Organic Statute. || With regard to the Principality of Bulgaria which, his Highness observed, was entirely separate from Eastern Roumelia, he said that by the IXth Article of the Treaty of Berlin it had been stipulated that the amount of the tribute to be paid by Bulgaria should be fixed by the Powers whose Representatives signed that Treaty, and that the Porte would find themselves under the necessity of soon inviting the attention of the Powers to their stipulation, and to request them to undertake the task without delay. It would be for them, he said, to decide whether this should be done by a Conference or by direct negotiations between the Governments of the different Powers. His Highness added, that it was possible that the Porte might at first address themselves to Her Majesty's Government and request them to invite the other Powers to unite in taking the question into consideration, agreeing at the same time upon the form in which this was to be done. || I have, &c. Edwd. Thornton.

Nr. 9213. England. 10. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9214. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den engl. Vertreter in Sophia. — Verbalnoten betreffend die Ruhestörungen bei den Wahlen in Nova-Zagora (Yeni-Zagra) und Kavakly. [B. 42, 43.]

Note Verbale.

Élections de Nova-Zagora.

Nr. 9214. Bulgarien. 10. Juni 1886.

Le 11 Mai, à 8 heures du matin, les Libéraux au nombre de 500 procèdent à l'élection du Bureau. On dresse et on signe le Protocole et on commence à voter. Les soi-disant Unionistes ayant perdu le Bureau et ayant vu que la majorité des électeurs est du côté des libéraux, se sont éloignés à une distance de soixante pas de la Mairie, où l'on avait déjà commencé à voter et élirent un Bureau à eux. Cambouroff, Frères, rassemblent une bande des villageois énivrés dès le matin, font monter le Maire de Ghordimé à une place élevée pour parler et se mettent à crier: "A bas le Prince, à bas le Gouvernement." Ils envoient ensuite quelques individus armés de revolvers dans la salle où se faisaient les élections à l'effet de tuer le Président et les mem-

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bres du Bureau. Le Président, aussitôt qu'il apprit l'intention des Unionistes, demanda par écrit du secours au Sous-Préfet. Ce dernier envoya trois gendarmes et quatre soldats afin qu'ils se tiennent près du bureau. Le Sous-Préfet envoya aussi deux gendarmes et cinq soldats pour éloigner de la bande le Maire de Gherdimé, qui criait à tue-tête: "A bas le Prince, vive l'Empereur de Russie." Aussitôt que la police invita le Maire à s'éloigner de la bande, ce dernier donna ordre à la bande de battre les gendarmes et les soldats. La bande attaque les soldats avec des pierres et des bâtons. Le Commandant de Compagnie, le Lieutenant Serberoff, voyant que la bande bat les soldats et que cinq parmi eux gisent déjà par terre dangereusement blessés, donne ordre à la Compagnie de sortir de la caserne et de se ranger devant la Sous-Préfecture. La Compagnie se rangea. Il proposa trois fois à la bande de se disperser, mais la bande au lieu de se soumettre à cet ordre, se lança contre la compagnie, et avant que le Lieutenant Serberoff ait eu le temps de commander "feu en l'air," Cambouroff tire avec son revolver à une distance de cinquante pas sur le Lieutenant, qu'il blesse mortellement. La bande, enhardie par le fait de la mort du Lieutenant, se jette, armée de bâtons et de revolvers, sur les soldats. Ces derniers firent alors feu sur elle et tuèrent six paysans et blessèrent trois aux pieds. Les bourgeois et les paysans du parti Libéral, aussitôt qu'ils ont vu que les Unionistes se sont révoltés, se cachèrent dans les maisons. En conséquence, la lutte était entre les soldats, les gendarmes et les Unionistes. Ce sont ces derniers qui ont provoqué le conflict et non les soldats ou le Bureau. Il y a six paysans et le Lieutenant Serberoff de tués, sept soldats et trois paysans de blessés. De l'instruction à laquelle ont procédé les autorités judiciaires il devient évident que le chef des Unionistes à Stara-Zagora avait décidé déjà le soir, aussitôt qu'ils perdront le Bureau, de provoquer une révolution, de tuer le Commandant de Compagnie, ensuite les soldats et après les fonctionnaires, et de mettre le feu aux maisons de leurs adversaires. La plupart des coupables sont arrêtés. Quelques-uns se sont enfuis; mais des mesures ont été prises pour leur arrestation.

Note Verbale.

Élections de Kavakly.

La veille des élections, 17 (29) Mai, le Maire de Kavakly, son adjoint, et son Secrétaire avaient arrêté pour le lendemain le programme suivant:—

"Tous les électeurs Grecs doivent prendre position sur les plateformes qui dominent l'endroit où doit se faire l'élection, cacher des pierres dans leurs habits et attaquer les Bulgares, dès que ceux-ci proposeront les personnes devant constituer le Bureau."

Ces dispositions des Grecs ayant été connues, on prit des mesures pour que le Président du Bureau fût désigné par la majorité et que les membres fussent en nombre égal des deux côtés. C'est ce qui fut fait. Pendant les

délibérations, les Grecs attaquent à l'improviste les Bulgares à coups de pierres. Alors la gendarmerie, composée de trente hommes, intervint et, au prix de grands efforts, parvint à rétablir l'ordre. La foule s'est ensuite dispersée. Il y a eu une trentaine de blessés dans cette bagarre entre Grecs et Bulgares. Ayant appris que cette manoeuvre des Grecs avait provoqué une grande surexcitation parmi les Bulgares, qui auraient maltraité quelques voyageurs Grecs, le Préfet de Slivno a pris toutes les mesures nécessaires pour empêcher tout désordre. La tranquillité est rétablie.

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Nr. 9215. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bedeutung der Ruhestörungen und Unregelmässigkeiten bei den Wahlen, Rücktritt des Justizministers. [B. 44.]

Sophia, June 10, 1886.

My Lord, || The Bulgarian Chamber, in which the newly-elected Eastern Roumelian Deputies will also sit, has been convoked for the 14th instant. The elections in Eastern Roumelia have resulted in the return of eighty-nine members of which fifty-nine are, I understand, in favour of the Government, ten belong to the Opposition, and twenty are doubtful. In addition to the disturbances which took place at Yeni Zagra and Kavakli, and which formed the subject of my two preceding despatches, I have been informed that riots occurred at other places also, and the Government is accused of having employed very strong and even illegal measures to insure the return of their candidates. It is very difficult to obtain here any trustworthy information as to what took place during the elections; but it would seem that, on the whole, the disturbances were not so serious or so numerous as might have been expected from the alarming reports which had been circulated with regard to the extent of discontent in the country, and from the preparations which were said to have been made by the Opposition to create disturbances in every district, so as to prove that the country was in a state of anarchy, and thus furnish an excuse for a demand for a Russian occupation. || Although the Government have obtained a majority of at least two-thirds of the Eastern Roumelian Deputies, it is doubtful whether they will be able to count upon a majority among the Bulgarian Deputies. M. Radoslavoff, the Minister of Justice, has resigned his post, and has, I understand, assigned two reasons for doing so: (1) that an order which concerned his Department was issued without his having been consulted; and (2) that he disapproves of the arrangement with Turkey which has made the union between Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia an unreal one. In my despatch of the 1st ultimo I had the honour to report, that M. Radoslavoff was said to be undermining M. Karavéloff's position in the hopes of becoming Prime Minister himself, and it is possible that this may be the case. I have not, however, been able to ascertain whether he intends to form a coalition either

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with M. Zancoff or with the Conservative party, or whether he proposes to form a new party for himself from among the extreme Radicals. || It is expected, that the question of the election of a new President of the Chamber will be raised, which will give an immediate opportunity of ascertaining the strength of the different parties. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9216. ENGLAND. — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Bulgarische Truppen haben den Kirdjali-District besetzt. [B. 40.]

Bourgas, June 12, 1886.

Nr. 9216. England. 12. Juni 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that I have very good reason to believe that a Bulgarian regiment, known as the Irkutski Polk, has occupied the Kirdjali district, retroceded by private convention after the *coup d'État* last year by Bulgaria to Turkey. The alleged reason is the refusal of the inhabitants to submit to Turkish rule; this, however, is unlikely, as I believe the majority of the inhabitants are Turks. There are already vague reports of conflicts between Turkish and Bulgarian villagers in that district. I have, &c.

W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9217. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Rückkehr Gadban Effendis nach Sophia; Bulgarien weist Abtretungen an die Pforte im Kirdjali-District ohne entsprechende Entschädigung zurück. [B. 46.]

Sophia, June 12, 1886.

Nr. 9217. England. 12. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that Gadban Effendi returned to Sophia on the 7th instant to resume his duties as Turkish Commissioner of Vakoufs. || M. Tsanow informed me to-day, that he believes that Gadban Effendi's return was caused by a question which has arisen with regard to certain villages near the district of Kirdjali, which, in accordance with the Turkish Agreement, had been handed over to the Turkish authorities. || As far as I understand from his Excellency, the district which has thus been handed over is entirely surrounded by Bulgarian territory except on the southern side, where the mountainous character of the country and the want of roads render communication almost impossible, and the Turkish authorities now demand the cession of twenty-four other villages, so as to be able to establish a direct line of communication with the Government of Adrianople. || M. Tsanow informed me, that it would not be possible for the Bulgarian Government to admit this fresh demand on the part of the Porte, although they might be

prepared to negotiate for the exchange of the villages in question against some other territory, possibly in the neighbourhood of Kustendil. || I have, &c. Nr. 9217. England. 12. Juni 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9218. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Auswärt. — Bericht über Aeusserungen des Fürsten Alexander betreffs der Lage in Bulgarien. [B. 54.]

Sophia, June 14, 1886.

My Lord, || Prince Alexander sent for me to-day after the opening of the Chamber, and conversed at considerable length on the present state of affairs in Bulgaria. His Highness said, that the Opposition, which had been strengthened by the resignation of M. Radoslavoff, the Minister of Justice, was now so strong that it was by no means impossible that they would be able to defeat the Government on the question of the union. His Highness had stated in his Speech from the Throne, that the fact of the Eastern Roumelian Deputies sitting in the Bulgarian Chamber was a proof of the reality of the union, and he had conversed with some members of the Opposition, and more especially with some of the Eastern Roumelian Deputies, and had pointed out the danger of proclaiming a complete union at present. No one could desire a complete union more strongly than His Highness; but the whole of Europe would certainly be opposed to any action on the part of Bulgaria which might give rise to further complications. The Eastern Roumelian Deputies had answered that it would be impossible to return to their country unless the proclamation were made. People there had been taught to believe, that the union was not a reality, and they hoped that some means might be found of meeting their wishes without incurring the opposition of Europe. || His Highness thought it possible that the arguments which M. Karaveloff was prepared to bring forward on this point might convince the majority of the Deputies that it was impossible for the present to obtain a more complete union; but there was another point upon which the Opposition were legally in the right. The 1st Article of the Constitution provides, that the territorial limits of the Principality of Bulgaria can neither be enlarged nor contracted without the consent of the Great National Assembly, and the 2nd Article, § 7, provides, that the Prince of Bulgaria cannot be simultaneously Ruler over any other State without the consent of the Great National Assembly. Nr. 9218. England. 14. Juni 1886.

Even, therefore, if the Government were prepared, which they certainly are not, to argue that the territorial limits of Bulgaria had not been enlarged, the necessity for the convocation of the Great National Assembly, which it appears the Opposition intend to demand, would still exist in consequence of His Highness having become the Ruler of Eastern Roumelia. It would, however, His Highness said, be impossible to proceed to a general election without

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running the greatest risk. In spite of all the precautions and severe measures taken by the Government during the recent elections in Eastern Roumelia, it had been impossible to prevent some disturbances and bloodshed, and His Highness could not undertake to be responsible for order if a general election were to take place now. His Highness added, that the Russians had done their best to stir up a revolution in Eastern Roumelia with the view of raising a cry for a Russian occupation in order to restore order. It was true that they had not succeeded, but it would be too dangerous to give them another opportunity. The only way, therefore, which His Highness saw of meeting the demand for the convocation of a Great National Assembly would be to admit it in principle, but to postpone the elections until the country had become less agitated. || His Highness went on to say, that he was convinced that no Bulgarian really desired to see the country fall into the hands of Russia, but the leaders of the Opposition were quite willing to use Russian help to overthrow the Government and to get into office themselves, in the hopes of being able to dispense with such help afterwards. The Opposition was at present composed of various groups, who, although they might unite to overthrow the present Government, would not probably hold together to support another Cabinet. M. Karaveloff could still count a larger number of supporters than any other leader, and His Highness thought it probable that, even if the Government were beaten, he would again have to charge M. Karaveloff with the formation of a new Cabinet. In any case, considerable modifications would have to be made, and it would be impossible for M. Tsanow, who had again incurred His Highness' displeasure by publishing a Green Book without having consulted His Highness as he had promised, to remain as Minister of Foreign Affairs. A new Minister of Justice would also have to be appointed, and it might therefore be advisable that the whole Government should retire, and M. Karaveloff be charged to form a new one. || His Highness did not conceal from me that he considered the situation as a very critical one. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9219. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Sobranje-Eröffnung und die Pläne der Opposition, eine vollständige Vereinigung mit Ostrumelien zu fordern. [B. 36.]

Sophia, June 14, 1886.

Nr. 9219 England. 14. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || The opening of the Bulgarian Chamber, in which the Eastern Roumelian Deputies have also seats, took place to-day. Prince Alexander's speech, which has been communicated by telegraph to the newspapers, contains no reference to any foreign Power with the exception of Austria, who is alluded to as the powerful defender to whom Servia had been compelled to apply.

The Opposition, it appears, intend to demand the convocation of a Great National Assembly, in order that the territorial changes which have been made should be ratified in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. They will also probably demand the proclamation of a complete union between Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia. || In an interview I had with Prince Alexander to-day, His Highness told, me that it was quite possible that these demands may be carried by the Chamber against the Government, and that they are strongly supported by the Russian party. If this should be the case, His Highness' position would become extremely difficult. It would be impossible to proceed to fresh elections at present without a great risk of serious disturbances taking place, which would be seized upon as a pretext for demanding that the country should be occupied by Russia. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9219. England. 14. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9220. BULGARIEN. — Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander bei Eröffnung der Sobranje*). [B. 53.]

Messieurs les Représentants. || Après les grands événements historiques auxquels notre pays a survécu, je suis heureux de féliciter dans ma capitale la première Assemblée Nationale à laquelle prennent part les Représentants de la nation Bulgare d'au delà et en deçà des Balkans. || Je ne trouve pas, Messieurs les Députés, de mots pour pouvoir exprimer ma reconnaissance sans bornes envers la vaillante nation Bulgare, qui, comme un seul homme, s'est levée pour défendre la patrie contre l'ennemi, et qui a tout sacrifié pour sauver l'honneur, la liberté et l'intégrité de notre territoire. || J'estime comme un devoir, Messieurs les Représentants, de remercier la nation par votre entremise pour les exploits des vaillants soldats Bulgares — dignes fils de leur patrie dont ils sont également la fierté — lesquels, avec une bravoure et une abnégation sans exemple, ont infligé des défaites si rapides à l'ennemi,

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*) Das Journal de St. Pétersbourg knüpft an diese Rede am 5/17. Juni folgende Auslassungen: On a lu hier dans nos colonnes le discours par lequel le Prince Alexandre a ouvert la Session de l'Assemblée réunie à Sophia et comprenant les Représentants de la Bulgarie aussi bien que ceux de la Roumélie-Orientale. Ce qu'on aura surtout remarqué dans ce document, que nous n'allons pas analyser dans ses détails, c'est la désinvolture absolue avec laquelle son auteur passe par-dessus toutes les stipulations internationales concernant la situation des deux pays qu'il est appelé à gouverner. || Ayant interprété ces stipulations comme il l'a fait, ou plutôt les ayant laissées dans l'ombre, on comprend à la rigueur que le Prince se soit abstenu d'en faire aucune mention dans son discours. Ce qui aurait pu et dû en tout cas être évité, ce sont les termes dans lesquels il a été parlé de la Serbie. Avec plus de sagesse et moins de suffisance on aurait compris qu'il y avait des susceptibilités à ménager, ne fut-ce que dans l'intérêt des relations de bon voisinage que la Bulgarie doit vouloir cultiver et qui eussent certainement prévalu si des considérations purement personnelles n'avaient pas dicté le langage que nous signalons.

Nr. 9220. Bulgarien. 14. Juni 1886.

l'ont poursuivi sur son territoire, et l'ont forcé à chercher de puissants défenseurs pour le sauver d'une ruine inévitable. Les exploits heroïques des armées Bulgares et les sacrifices énormes supportés par la nation ont acquis à la Bulgarie les sympathies du monde civilisé, fait disparaître les obstacles et les difficultés, et posé de toute leur influence pour que ses désirs et ses aspirations légitimes soient satisfaites. Aussi bien, aujourd'hui, est-ce avec une profonde joie que nous constatons devant vous, Messieurs les Députés, que l'union des deux Bulgaries, si longtemps attendue et si sincèrement désirée, est déjà faite; la preuve en est qu'aujourd'hui une Assemblée Générale Nationale Bulgare examinera et décidera les affaires et les questions concernant les intérêts de notre patrie unie. || La dernière guerre d'où, avec l'aide de Dieu, la Bulgarie est sortie victorieuse, a ouvert une ère nouvelle à notre histoire et marqué à notre pays une place honorable au milieu des États voisins de la presqu'île des Balkans. Cette guerre a inspiré à la nation de la confiance en ses propres forces et de l'espoir dans un brillant avenir; mais aussi elle a affaibli jusqu'à un certain point les moyens financiers du pays, et a donné lieu à de nouvelles charges et à de nouveaux besoins auxquels il faut pourvoir. || Dans ce but, mon Gouvernement vous présentera quelques Projets de Loi et propositions que vous examinerez et résoudrez, j'en suis persuadé, avec la sérieuse attention nécessaire, et qu'à cette fin vous lui donnerez votre concours éclairé. || Je déclare ouverte la Session présente de la quatrième Assemblée Nationale.

Alexandre.

Nr. 9221. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Auslassungen des Fürsten Alexander und Gadban Effendis über den Streit mit der Türkei betreffs der Gebietsabtretung im Kirdjali-District. [B. 55.]

Sophia, June 15, 1886.

Nr. 9221. England. 15. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || In the interview I had with Prince Alexander yesterday, which I reported in my despatch of yesterday's date, His Highness spoke of the question of the twenty-four villages in the neighbourhood of Kirdjali which the Porte demanded should be given up to the Turkish authorities. His Highness said, that during his journey in Eastern Roumelia he had received a telegram from M. Tsanow saying that the villages in question refused to recognize the Bulgarian Government, and suggesting that a battalion of soldiers should be sent there for the purpose of maintaining Bulgarian authority. His Highness consented to send troops, but insisted that a regiment, and not a battalion, should be sent. Gadban Effendi, who was at the time at Adrianople on his way to the villages in question, remonstrated strongly with His Highness, and had pointed out that in making the arrangement the Porte had

understood that these villages, which were entirely Mussulman, were included in the territory to be ceded. The Prince had replied, that there would probably have been no objection to their cession if the Porte had asked for them at the time of the arrangement, but that it would be impossible for His Highness to cede them now in view of the discontent which his action had created in ceding so much. His Highness also defended his action in sending troops to a portion of the country under his administration which defied the authority of his Government, and the villages had been occupied without the slightest disturbance. His Highness was most anxious to be on good terms with the Sultan, but he could not possibly make any further cession of territory without receiving an equivalent.

Yesterday afternoon I received a visit from Gadban Effendi, who spoke to me at great length on this subject. He said, that it was clearly understood that the villages in question were to be ceded, and it was a mere trick on the part of M. Tsanow to have inserted the words "Canton of Kirdjali" in the arrangement. The sending of troops could not fail to irritate the Sultan, who would probably reply by making a military demonstration on the frontier, and by sending troops to the ceded district. At this moment it was all-important, that the Prince should be on good terms with the Sultan, who had it in his power to be of great assistance or the reverse to His Highness in the various questions which could not fait to arise, and more especially with regard to the revision of the Organic Statute. It would be, therefore, most unfortunate if His Highness alienated the sympathies of His Majesty, and this would certainly be the case if such tricks, for which he was convinced that M. Tsanow was solely responsible, should continue. He suggested, that, in view of the great importance, for the Prince, of the maintenance of friendly relations with the Sultan, it would be advisable that I, as a personal friend of His Highness, should repeat to him Gadban Effendi's views, and urge him at all events to withdraw the troops. || I replied, that any interference on my part would probably only complicate matters, and that it would be far better for Gadban Effendi himself to deal with the question. I had, moreover, had an interview with His Highness in the morning, who had spoken to me on the subject, and had expressed his sincere desire to remain on good terms with the Sultan. It was very unfortunate, that the territory to be ceded had not been more accurately defined in the arrangement; but I thought it would be very difficult for the Prince to give up the villages in question, as such an action on his part would be regarded by the country as a further concession to Turkey. || Gadban Effendi maintained, that the villages had in reality been ceded, and that it was dishonest on the part of M. Tsanow to have induced the Prince to occupy them. As a matter of fact, no Bulgarian authority had been near the villages since the 18th September till the 2nd instant, when the troops marched in. It would be easy to explain this to the Chamber, and it was not to be forgotten, that the Sultan had a large force at Adrianople

Nr. 9221. England. 15. Juni 1886.

which could easily be moved to the frontier, and that this would certainly be done if the Bulgarian troops remained where they were. He again urged me to see the Prince and tell him what he had said; but I declined on the ground, that he could say it much better himself. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9222. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander protestirt gegen eine von Russland gestattete Besetzung von Burgas durch die Pforte, glaubt, die Russen suchen eine Revolution herbeizuführen, und erklärt seine Stellung zur Verhaftung Nabokoffs. [B. 56.]

Sophia, June 15, 1886.

Nr. 9222. England. 15. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || Prince Alexander informed me yesterday, that during his journey in Eastern Roumelia he had been positively informed that Russia had applied to Turkey for permission to occupy Bourgas, and that the Sultan was disposed to allow her to do so. His Highness had thereupon sent for Gadban Effendi and protested strongly against this measure, and had added that, if the Sultan allowed the Russians to occupy any part of the country, he would give up the whole to them. || His Highness said, that it was impossible not to connect this demand with the plot against his life, which had been discovered at Bourgas, and that it was evident to him that the Russians had counted upon a revolution breaking out.

With regard to the plot, His Highness said, that he was from the first averse to arresting M. Nabokoff, but that the Procureur of Bourgas had assured His Highness that the proofs against that officer were so convincing that he had consented to his arrest. He had subsequently given orders, that he should be delivered over to the Russian Consul, who had a right to claim him under the Capitulations, and who had undertaken that he should remain under arrest at the Consulate. This condition had not been fulfilled, and M. Nabokoff was now at liberty at Bourgas, although he cannot leave the town. It now appears, that the Procureur of Bourgas was in error in stating that the proofs against M. Nabokoff were sufficient to convict him of direct participation in the plot against His Highness, although they are sufficient to prove that he had incited the people to revolt, and it is with this offence that he will probably be charged. His Highness informed me, that M. Bogdanoff, the Acting Russian Consul-General, had demanded satisfaction for the indignity of M. Nabokoff's arrest, and I understood from M. Tsanow that M. Bogdanoff had demanded that M. Nabokoff should be tried by the Russian Consular Court, but that he had admitted subsequently the right of the Bulgarian Tribunals, and had demanded that the trial should take place without delay. || I understand, that

one of the reasons given by M. Radoslavoff for his resignation was that M. Nabokoff had been delivered over to the Russian Consul without his having been consulted, in his capacity of Minister of Justice, on the subject. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles. Nr. 9222. England. 15. Juni 188'.

Nr. 9223. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander theilt Umtriebe des russischen Generalconsuls, um eine Revolution in Macedonien herbeizuführen mit*). [B. 57.]

Sophia, June 15, 1886.

My Lord, || Prince Alexander informed me, that a Macedonian leader, who had been with him at Pirot, had told him that M. Bogdanoff had sent for him and informed him that the time had arrived for creating a revolt in Macedonia, but that, as Russia did not wish to appear to take any part in the matter, he would receive the necessary funds and instructions from M. Ludskanoff, M. Zancoff's son-in-law. || The Macedonian told the Prince that he had undertaken to raise a revolt in Macedonia, but that he would not do so unless His Highness approved of it; and on His Highness telling him that he strongly disapproved of any action of the kind, the Macedonian promised that he would not raise a revolt, although he intended to keep the money which he had received from M. Ludskanoff. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles. Nr. 9223. England. 15. Juni 1886.

Nr. 9224. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Giers ist von der Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander sehr unangenehm berührt und bereitet ein Circular deshalb vor. [B. 38.]

St. Petersburgh, June 16, 1886.

My Lord, || This morning's papers published a long telegram purporting to be the text of the Prince of Bulgaria's Speech at the opening of the Bulgaro-Roumelian National Assembly on Monday, the 14th instant. || To-day being the weekly reception day at the Foreign Office, I saw M. de Giers, and the conversation naturally turned upon the Speech. His Excellency was very unfavourably impressed by it, and said that the unwise course taken by Prince Alexander at this critical and important juncture might produce very undesirable results. He was placing arms in the hands of his old enemies, creating Nr. 9224. England. 16. Juni 1886.

*) Am 17. Juni meldet der englische Generalconsul in Salonichi an seine Regierung, dass eine bulgarische Räuberbande, welche von dem Panslavistencomité zur Erregung von Unruhen in Macedonien ausgesandt worden, von türkischen Truppen aufgehoben worden sei, dass auch andere bulgarische Banden in Macedonien ihr Wesen treiben. [B. 68.]

Nr. 9224. England. 16. Juni 1886.

new ones, and exciting universal distrust and alarm. For his (M. de Giers') own part, he would for the present confine himself to taking act of His Highness' departure from the *status* agreed to by Europe in reference to the Principalities, and hear what the other Powers would have to say ("constater et entendre ce que diront les autres"). || I asked his Excellency whether by "taking act" he meant to address the Powers formally on the subject, and I gathered from his reply that he was preparing a Circular despatch on the subject. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9225. ENGLAND. — Consul in Adrianopel an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Militärische Vorbereitungen der Pforte in Macedonien. [B. 65.]

Adrianople, June 18, 1886.

Nr. 9225. England. 18. Juni 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to report, that public rumour persistently points to forthcoming disturbances on the Moustafa-Pasha frontier. || I am informed on good authority, that some days ago Mehmed Pasha, the General commanding-in-chief at the frontier, telegraphed here to ask whether he should occupy the twenty-two villages in the Chirmen district, about the cession of which difficulties were raised by the Bulgarian authorities. No answer was returned for four days, at the expiration of which he was instructed to occupy the villages; he found, however, that 4,500 Bulgarian troops were in possession, and, according to my informant, the matter remains thus for the present. The Turkish Commander is endeavouring to persuade the Bulgarians to evacuate, while they firmly refuse to give way without definite instruction from Sophia. || It is stated, that the mountaineers of the Rhodope make no secret of their disgust at the treatment they have received at the hands of the Ottoman Government, and that they are more disposed to hold aloof than to join with the Turks against the Bulgarians in the event of a contest. || Sixteen battalions are expected here from Salonica; they form part of the Redifs of the 2nd Army Corps, which at present numbers in this province some 50,000 men, of whom about 20,000 are in this town, while it is estimated that from 12,000 to 14,000 are at Moustafa-Pasha and the district. || The troops have for some days been employed in the construction of forts round Adrianople; I learn, however, that yesterday the various communities were informed, that they will be required to join in this work, in place of the annual four days' labour which they are compelled to perform on the public roads. As wheat-harvest is just beginning this demand presses very heavily on the inhabitants, who are mostly of the agricultural and farm-labourer class. || I have, &c.

Edwd. Chas. Blech.

Nr. 9226. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Italienische Vorstellungen in Sophia über die Thronrede des Fürsten und dessen Erwiederung darauf*). [B. 48.]

Sophia, June 19, 1886.

Nr. 9226. England. 19. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || Count de Sonnaz, the Italian Agent here, has received a telegram from his Government, stating that although the convocation of Bulgarian and Eastern Roumelian Deputies in a single Chamber was diametrically opposed to the terms of the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement, the Great Powers had closed their eyes to this irregularity, and had not protested against it. But Prince Alexander's Speech from the throne had aggravated the situation, which was already dangerously strained. Count de Sonnaz was therefore instructed to make both the Prince and the Bulgarian Government understand, that they should act with the greatest circumspection, and avoid anything which might compel the Great Powers to recall to their minds the obligatory character of the Protocol of Constantinople. The Italian Government hoped, that this advice, which was given not only in the interests of Bulgaria herself, but also with the view of maintaining peace, would be listened to. || My Italian colleague had an interview with Prince Alexander this evening, and communicated to His Highness the substance of this telegram. || His Highness replied, that he also considered the situation as very critical. He said, that he had been compelled to make the allusion in his Speech to the union being complete to avoid the danger, which was imminent, of the Chamber rejecting the whole of the arrangement. His Highness hoped, that his Speech would satisfy the Chamber and prevent them from raising further difficulties. His Highness added, that he believed that Gadban Effendi was trying to indispose the Porte towards him, and that Russia was certainly working actively to create a hostile feeling to him, not only in Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, but also in foreign countries, and he had reason to fear that she had come to an understanding on the subject with the French Government. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9227. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über Radoslawoffs Wiedereintritt in das Ministerium. [B. 69.]

Sophia, June 22, 1886.

Nr. 9227. England. 22. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to report that the political situation has greatly changed, in conse-

*) Auch Lord Rosebery liess in Sophia auf den üblen Eindruck aufmerksam machen, welchen die Thronrede „in certain quarters" hervorgerufen habe [B. 47]; Lascelles meldet darauf am 20. Juni, dass der Grossvezier eine Note nach Sophia gesandt habe „which, although somewhat sarcastic, was drawn up in a friendly tone". Der Grossvezier bemerkte, die Sprache Sr. Hoheit sei „very eloquent, but very incorrect". [B. 52.]

Nr. 9227. England. 22. Juni 1886

quence of a reconciliation having been come to between M. Radoslavoff, who has resumed his post as Minister of Justice, and M. Karaveloff. This reconciliation, which I understand was brought about by M. Stambouloff, the President of the Chamber, will ensure a majority in favour of the Government, but will entail considerable modifications of the Cabinet, as it would seem that M. Radoslavoff, or rather some of his supporters, insisted upon the condition that M. Tsanow, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and M. Karoleff, the Minister of Public Instruction, should be replaced, and that a Minister of the Interior should be appointed. M. Karaveloff has hitherto himself occupied the three posts of President of the Council, Minister of Finance and Minister of the Interior. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9228. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Besorgnisse Graf Kálnokys wegen der Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander. [B 66.]

(Extract.) Vienna, June 23, 1886.

Nr. 9228. England. 23. Juni 1886.

I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that Count Kálnoky having returned to Vienna the day before yesterday I called upon his Excellency yesterday, his usual day for receiving the foreign Representatives, and we had some conversation upon the affairs of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, more especially with reference to the Speech of Prince Alexander upon opening the Session of the Sobranje. || Count Kálnoky, who spoke in the same friendly tone which has invariably characterized his observations on matters concerning the Prince, expressed regret that His Highness had not been more careful and prudent in the Address which he made to his Chamber. The Speech, he said, had not been favourably viewed, so far as he was aware, by any of the Cabinets, and as for the impression it had produced at St. Petersburgh, it was, he said, hardly necessary for him to tell me what it was. No mention was made of the Powers or of the Convention by which they had sanctioned the new arrangements for the provinces, none either of the Suzerain Power nor of the Commission which is to meet for the revision of the Organic Statute, the union being treated as if it were already now completed. All this was extremely injudicious, and the reference to the victories over the Servians was quite unnecessary, and only calculated to rekindle national animosities when it was so important that these should be assuaged. || His Excellency proceeded to say, that he made every allowance for the difficulties of the Prince's position; he believed indeed, that His Highness' excuse for the terms in which he had spoken of the union was that it was to prevent its assertion in a more decided form by the Chamber itself; but it would behove him to be extremely cautious in all his words and acts for the future, the more so, as while, on the one hand, he was confronted with the same

Nr. 9228. England. 23. Juni 1886.

personal antagonism on the part of Russia, it might be doubted whether His Highness could count upon the same amount of interest being taken in his affairs on the part of the other Powers, and his Excellency illustrated his meaning by referring to England, who, he said, had been the Prince's chief support, having now her attention almost exclusively absorbed by weighty matters of domestic legislation. || He was afraid, that the Prince's Speech had not only produced a bad impression upon the other Cabinets, but it had also been unfavourably viewed at Constantinople, where some uneasiness appeared to prevail as to His Highness' ultimate designs. || This, Count Kálnoky said, was very much to be regretted. By his previous conduct of affairs, the Prince had succeeded in creating a very friendly feeling towards himself on the part of the Sultan and his Government, and it should be a special care on his part to endeavour to maintain these feelings. His Excellency said, that he had sent an instruction to the Austrian Agent at Sophia to speak some words of caution to Prince Alexander on this subject, and added that he believed that, if the Prince were to mark distinctly his intention to continue loyally to acknowledge the Sultan's suzerainty and to pay the tribute, the Porte would be found very accommodating in regard to the change in the Organic Statute.

In reply to these observations I said, that while fully admitting the force of the objections which his Excellency mentioned to the terms and also to the omissions in the Prince's Speech, it occurred to me to suggest whether His Highness might not possibly have refrained from speaking of the Convention in order not to afford an opportunity to the Sobranje for discussing this international instrument, which was beyond its competence. I had gathered, I said, from some despatches from Sir F. Lascelles, which had recently passed through my hands under flying seal, that the Prince was in great apprehension lest the Opposition, encouraged by Russian influence, should bring forward a motion to the effect that the union of the two provinces was now practically effected, and that it should be carried, in which event new elections would become necessary, which His Highness feared would be attended with such disturbances as might afford a pretext for a Russian occupation.

Count Kálnoky stated that information to the same effect had reached him, but that his impression was, that it was not the intention of Russia to bring about so serious a crisis at the present moment, though, of course, the adoption of such a motion as the one referred to would be a serious additional complication.

Nr. 9229. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Russische Beschwerden bei der Pforte über die bulgarische Regierung*). [B. 60.]

(Extract.) Therapia, June 23, 1886.

Nr. 9229. England. 23. Juni 1886.

About the beginning of this month the Russian Embassy made a communication to the Sublime Porte containing various complaints of the conduct of the Bulgarian Government during the elections which recently took place in Eastern Roumelia. || It stated, that the Government made use of every means in its power for the purpose of influencing the electors and returning to power a majority of the party, the leaders of which were the most active movers in the events of last autumn, which so nearly disturbed the peace of the East. || It was further stated, that Prince Alexander used threats to check even an expression of public opinion, and that the slightest opposition to the party in power was put down by acts of unheard-of violence on the part of His Highness' agents. || Peaceable citizens were said to have been expelled and imprisoned, and regularly organized bands employed to attain the ends His Highness sought for. This action of the Prince the Russian Government looked upon as wholly unjustifiable, and as exceeding his powers. || The Russian communication then stated, that the fact of the Sublime Porte treating these acts with silence would be interpreted as an approval, and should the results prove serious they alone would have to bear the responsibility.

Nr. 9230. BULGARIEN. — Adresse der Sobranje an den Fürsten zur Beantwortung der Thronrede**). [B. 71.]

(Translation.)

Nr. 9230. Bulgarien. 24. Juni 1886.

Altesse! || Les Représentants du peuple Bulgare sont heureux aujourd'hui de pouvoir, après les grands événemens historiques qui se sont accomplis, exprimer à votre Altesse les véritables sentiments qui remplissent l'âme de toute la nation, en voyant la Bulgarie du nord et la Bulgarie du sud placées sous un même sceptre, ainsi que la première Assemblée Nationale à laquelle prennent part les Représentants de deux pays Bulgares.

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*) Die Pforte richtete infolgedessen eine Note an die bulgarische Regierung, welche die russischen Beschwerden wörtlich wiedergab und über deren weiteren Inhalt Lascelles am 24. Juni [B. 64] an Rosebery berichtet: The Grand Vizier added, that it was quite intelligible that Prince Alexander should wish to support constitutionally the party of his Government, and also that His Highness should attempt to gain the sympathies of the Opposition; but, at the same time, His Highness must be held responsible for any abuse of power on the part of his agents, and Gadban Effendi was therefore instructed to report as to the truth of the allegations contained in the Russian communication.

**) Gegen dieselbe waren nur zwei Stimmen abgegeben worden, nachdem Zankoff und 20 seiner Anhänger vor der Abstimmung die Kammer verlassen hatten. [B. 71.]

Monseigneur! || Nous partageons pleinement les sentiments de reconnaissance sans bornes de votre Altesse envers la nation qui, en effet, s'est levée comme un seul homme pour coopérer à l'union de la Bulgarie du sud, et pour défendre la patrie, comme aussi envers les vaillants soldats Bulgares qui, avec une bravoure, une abnégation et un élan sans exemple, et sous la vaillante conduite de votre Altesse, mirent l'ennemi en déroute et entèrent victorieusement sur son territoire. Nr. 9230. Bulgarien. 24. Juni 1886.

Altesse! || L'empressement avec lequel le peuple Bulgare, pour atteindre son idéal et défendre l'honneur, la liberté et l'intégrité de notre territoire se décida à faire tous les sacrifices, et les exploits glorieux de notre jeune armée ont inscrit une page brillante dans notre histoire moderne. Ils sont une preuve que le peuple Bulgare est digne de sa destinée historique, et qu'il est en état de la poursuivre et de la défendre. || C'est avec une joie immense que la nation a vu son Souverain bien-aimé et vaillant guide, à la tête de son armée, défendre et garder le pays, et prêt à mourir pour la gloire, l'honneur et l'indépendance de la patrie unie. || C'est avec une égale joie que la Représentation Nationale accueillit ces paroles de votre Altesse constatant que l'union des deux Bulgaries, si longtemps attendu et sincèrement désirée, est déjà faite; elle est profondément persuadée que, sous la direction habile et éclairée de son Maître bien-aimé et de son Gouvernement, tous les moyens seront employés pour que la Bulgarie du nord et du sud reste pour toujours un corps politique durable et indivisible.

Monseigneur! || Le peuple Bulgare a toujours attaché un grand prix aux sympathies du monde civilisé, et voit avec joie que ces sympathies lui sont acquises. Il a, pour son avenir pleine confiance dans l'humanité et la générosité des Grandes Puissances, et particulièrement de la Grande Russie, notre libératrice, qui a comblé notre nation de tant de bienfaits.

Altesse! || Les Représentants du peuple examineront, avec grand soin et une attention sérieuse, tous les Projets de Loi et propositions que le Gouvernement de votre Altesse présentera à l'Assemblée en faisant tout ce que leur imposent les devoirs et les intérêts de la patrie unie.

Vive le Souverain de la Bulgarie Unie, Son Altesse le Prince Alexandre 1er!

Nr. 9231. **BULGARIEN.** — Entwurf der Antwortsnote auf die von der Türkei gemachten Vorstellungen*). [B. 70.]

Depuis que la province est confiée à Son Altesse le Prince, son Gouvernement a toujours fait son devoir pour assurer le maintien de la tranquillité publique contre tous ceux qui ont cherché à la troubler, et prenaient pour Nr. 9231. Bulgarien. 25. Juni 1886.

*) Mitgetheilt von Lascelles an Rosebery am 26. Juni.

Nr. 9231. Bulgarien. 25. Juni 1886.

arme la décision même de la Conférence Européenne, décision qui, d'après leurs discours, ne donne pas satisfaction aux voeux du pays.

2. Pendant les élections le Gouvernement Princier a suffisamment donné des preuves de sa neutralité, en laissant le champ libre à tous les partis, sans exercer une influence quelconque sur qui que ce fût.

3. Si les personnes qui ont pris part aux événements du 6 (18) Septembre, ont influencé les élections dans un sens favorable à la conservation de leur parti, la population de la province, si elle avait été contraire à leurs agissements [?], possédait, de par la loi, assez de moyens pour protester contre les élections dont elle aurait pu aisément obtenir l'invalidation, comme le cas se présente maintes fois dans les pays Constitutionnels.

4. En ce qui concerne l'assertion que des Agents Gouvernementaux auraient eu recours à des mesures d'une violence inouïe telles que: expulsions, emprisonnements, organisation de bandes, &c., le Gouvernement Princier ne croit pas devoir s'y arrêter, attendu que nul n'est en état de prouver que des mesures de cette nature aient eu lieu. || Si dans les localités de Yéni-Zaghra, Kavakly et Hadji Elles (et non pas de Hasskeuy et Bazardjik) des conflits se sont produits, l'accusation ou plutôt la responsabilité doit porter, non pas sur le Gouvernement, ni sur les hommes d'ordre, mais sur les fauteurs de désordres, sur ceux qui ont voulu, à l'occasion des élections, troubler la tranquillité publique dans la province.

5. Le Prince et son Gouvernement n'ont jamais cessé de faire un juste usage des pouvoirs qu'ils détiennent, et le jour où ils réussiront à mettre un frein aux menées subversives de quelques esprits inquiets, et mal équilibrés, soutenus malheureusement par des éléments étrangeres au pays, il n'est pas à douter qu'une tranquillité exemplaire régnera au sein des populations, comme elle a, d'ailleurs, régné depuis le 6 (18) Septembre, malgré les menées dont il s'agit.

6. Le Prince est hors de cause, parce qu'il s'est, toujours et absolument, tenu en dehors des démêlés des partis. A son exemple le Gouvernement Bulgare use d'une condescendance à toute épreuve, sans laquelle les chefs de l'opposition devaient être, sinon expulsés, du moins traduits devant les Tribunaux, pour le langage violent de leurs organes de publicité ainsi que pour les agissements dont ils se sont rendus coupables en incitant, par des Circulaires manifestes, les populations à signer des Pétitions préparées d'avance par eux-mêmes.

7. Enfin, il est inexact de prétendre que le voyage de Son Altesse aurait eu lieu durant les élections. Il suffira de mentionner la date des élections 11 (23) Mai, et celle de l'arrivée du Prince à Varna 10 (22) Mai.

Nr. 9232. **ENGLAND.** — Generalconsul in Salonichi an den Min. des Ausw. — Uebersendet einen Artikel der Philippopler Zeitung „Nezavisimost“ nach der in der Revue de l'Orient vom 6. Juni enthaltenen französischen Uebersetzung*). [B. 80.]

Nr. 9232. England. 26. Juni 1886.

Il est temps pour nous, Bulgares, de nous occuper aujourd'hui de l'avenir de la Macédoine. Le 6 (18) Septembre a complètement modifié la situation de cette province et nous a rapprochés d'elle. Nous ne parlerons guère de la Turquie; vis-à-vis de la Sublime Porte, la Macédoine reste la même et ne peut espérer aucune amélioration. Personne n'ignore que le Turc ne peut dominer qu'à la condition expresse de n'apporter aucune modification à ce qui existe; toute amélioration le mine, le tue. Donc cette province n'a rien à espérer du côté du Sultan. Voyons ce que nous pouvons lui offrir. || Jusqu'au 6 (18) Septembre, les yeux de la Bulgarie étaient tournés vers sa jeune soeur, la Roumélie, qu'un Congrès impitoyable avait séparée d'elle; la question Macédonienne était donc secondaire. Mais aujourd'hui les deux Bulgaries sont unies d'une façon indissoluble. Nous devons donc n'avoir qu'une pensée, qu'un seul objectif, la Macédoine. Si nous n'avions pas fait cette révolution du 6 (18) Septembre que l'on nous reproche tant, il serait arrivé que, en cas de démembrement de l'Empire Ottoman, l'Europe nous eût accordé simplement la réunion de la Bulgarie et de la Roumélie; tandis que aujourd'hui c'est la Macédoine qui nous revient. || Nous n'ignorons point, nous autres Bulgares, que nous trouverons de nombreux rivaux sur la route qui mène à Salonique. Arrêtons-nous un instant et pesons leurs droits. Les grands États intéressés sont l'Autriche-Hongrie, l'Angleterre, l'Allemagne, la Russie. || La première, peu-à-peu chassée de l'Allemagne, cherche à s'établir politiquement et commercialement dans cette Macédoine qui sera la grande porte de son commerce. L'Angleterre tient à ce que la Macédoine reste entre les mains de ceux qui la possèdent actuellement, parce que les Turcs sont les seuls qui [ne] peuvent faire concurrence ou mettre des entraves au commerce de ces messieurs de Manchester. L'Allemagne n'a de regards bienveillants pour la Macédoine que parce qu'elle espère qu'elle deviendra une province Austro-Hongroise, et que alors il y aurait une compensation à espérer et que le Czar ne pourrait avoir la velléité de venir de ce côté gêner la politique Allemande et se verrait fermer la route de Stamboul. La Russie, elle, s'intéresse à fourrer le petit doigt dans le flanc de cette pauvre province, pour l'exciter contre l'Autriche-Hongrie et lui faire espérer que sa rédemption ne viendra que par elle. || Les petits États qui ont des vues ambitieuses sur la Macédoine sont la Bulgarie, la Serbie et la Grèce. Nous ne perdrons point notre temps

*) Der Consul bemerkt dazu: I believe the above-named newspaper is the organ of the Opposition party in Eastern-Roumelia.

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à discuter les prétendus droits de ces derniers pays. Une étude historique et une connaissance consciencieuse ethnographique et ethnologique suffisent pour écarter toutes les prétentions. || Il n'y a donc que nous, Bulgares, et que devons-nous faire? Compter sur la Russie, ce serait puéril et aller au devant du danger; nous rapprocher de l'Autriche-Hongrie, ce serait également jouer gros jeu et peut-être tirer les marrons du feu pour l'Allemagne; nous entendre avec la Grèce et la Serbie et nous partager à trois le gâteau — petite satisfaction! Ne vaut-il pas mieux s'entendre directement avec le Turc? Nous sommes les héritiers naturels de cette Puissance; pourquoi détruire notre héritage? Il nous arrivera forcément un jour ou l'autre, si nous sommes sages, à moins que des circonstances imprévues n'obligent la Russie et l'Autriche-Hongrie à entrer en lutte. Alors, malheur pour nous; la Bulgarie serait occupée par les Russes et la Macédoine par les Austro-Hongrois. Si nous devions voir cet affreux dénouement, nous préférions être en Macédoine. Au moins, tout en pleurant sur notre pays, nous nous dirions qu'avec l'Autriche-Hongrie, ce pays aux nationalités diverses, nous resterions ce que nous sommes, des Bulgares, tandis que sous le joug Muscovite nous serions des annexés de l'Ukraine et de la Sibérie.

Nr. 9233. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Uebersendet einen Artikel des „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg", welcher die Pforte des Einverständnisses mit der russenfeindlichen Politik des Fürsten Alexander bezichtigt, und berichtet über die Bemerkungen des Herrn v. Giers zu demselben. [B. 74.]

St. Petersburgh, June 30, 1886.

Nr. 9233. England. 30. Juni 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy of an article, which appeared in the "Journal de St.-Pétersbourg" yesterday, and which has caused no little excitement amongst the Diplomatic Body, some of whom, as well as part of the public, seem to consider it as an indication that the Russian Government were prepared to abandon their passive attitude and to declare themselves actively hostile to the state of things created by Prince Alexander's speech at the opening of the Bulgaro-Roumelian Chambers. || I asked M. de Giers to-day what meaning was to be attached to this article, pointing out the excitement it had produced. Did it imply a new departure? His Excellency, after criticizing the form of the article, in which he said the accents had all been put wrong, said that it nevertheless reproduced, *mutatis mutandis*, the idea of the Imperial Government such as he had sketched it out to me in our conversation a fortnight ago. It did no more than take act of ("constater") the *status quo* created by Prince Alexander's speech when declaring the wholly illegal union of the Principalities by means of the wholly

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illegal common Parliament. But, his Excellency observed, it would be absurd to regard the article as a declaration of policy on the part of the Russian Government. It was a newspaper article, written in an officious newspaper in reply to newspaper articles which had appeared in newspapers generally regarded as not innocent of officious inspiration. His Excellency then alluded, with some bitterness, to a number of articles which had appeared in the Austrian, Hungarian and even German press, which one and all, without disguise, chanted "hallelujahs" in honour of the Prince's action and the consummated union of the Principalities, because of the hostility thereby declared to Russia. It was to those gentlemen of the press, and those who stood behind them, that the only Russian journal written in a language understood throughout Europe addressed itself. || There was no question of a change of policy, but Russia wished it to be known that she was no dupe, and that she saw facts as they were with all their possible consequences. || I do not myself share the fears expressed by some of my colleagues, and I do not believe, that any change of policy on the part of Russia is at present to be apprehended; but the inclosed article is one of many symptoms of the increasing bitterness with which Russia views her present position. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Inclosure.

Extract from the "Journal de St.-Pétersbourg" of June 17 (29), 1886.

Une dépêche de Constantinople parlait il y a deux jours d'une note que le Chargé d'Affairs de Russie aurait reçue de son Gouvernement pour appeler l'attention de la Sublime Porte sur différentes violations du Statut Organique de la Roumélie-Orientale commises par le Prince de Bulgarie. || Nous ne savons si cette note existe et si la communication attribuée à M. Onou s'est faite dans les termes indiqués. Il nous semble en tout cas que le Prince Alexandre a porté atteinte à autre chose encore qu'au susdit Statut Organique, dont la révision a été reconnue nécessaire. Il a sauté à pieds joints par-dessus un arrangement Européen dont l'encre avait à peine eu le temps de sécher et qui était destiné à prévenir de nouvelles complications en Orient. Le Prince a réuni une assemblée unique pour les deux Bulgaries, en la proclamant solennellement "première Assemblée Nationale des deux pays d'au delà et d'en deçà des Balkans," manquant ainsi non seulement aux engagements contractés envers les Puissances et aux promesses faites au Sultan, mais encore aux Traités qui ont constitué la Bulgarie et la Roumélie-Orientale. || Nous ne tenons pas à rechercher si cette manière d'agir implique un manque d'égards plus grands envers les Puissances ou envers la Porte. Toujours est-il qu'on trouverait difficilement à citer le précédent d'un Prince vassal et encore moins d'un Gouverneur-Général qui ait tenté d'agir de la sorte envers son Suzerain et Souverain. || Toujours est-il aussi que si les procédés du Prince Alexandre

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sont peu respectueux envers l'aréopage Européen, ils sont directement attentatoires aux droits de la Porte et les menacent, non seulement dans les deux pays placés sous la domination de ce Prince, mais encore ailleurs. || Et cependant ces procédés semblent avoir été accueillis à Constantinople avec une indifférence, d'aucuns disent même avec une bienveillance qui pourrait presque justifier le soupçon formulé par bien des personnes que ces procédés étaient la conséquence d'un accord survenu entre la Porte et le Prince Alexandre. || Que cet accord existe ou non, on fermerait les yeux à l'évidence en pensant que la procédure adoptée à Constantinople puisse rester sans conséquence et c'est pourquoi nulle part on ne la considère avec indifférence.

Pour ce qui concerne spécialement la Russie, nous croyons qu'il ne saurait lui incomber, après tout ce qu'elle a déjà fait, de se constituer à elle seule le défenseur des décisions d'une Conférence Européenne qui semblent avoir perdu toute valeur aux yeux de ceux-là mêmes dans l'intérêt de qui elles avaient été prises. || Il convient toutefois de prendre acte de ces faits et d'en marquer l'importance, si l'on veut n'être pas surpris par les conséquences qui pourront en découler. La diplomatie a peiné pendant des mois pour rétablir la paix en Orient et pour arrêter des complications naissantes; elle a suggéré et dicté des solutions dont le seul mérite devait être que, imposées à tous les intéressés et acceptées par chacun d'eux, elles devaient arrêter des compétitions et prévenir de nouveaux conflits. || Constantinople et Sophia étaient les deux centres où l'on devait s'attendre à rencontrer le plus d'empressement à tenir à la stricte exécution de cet arrangement. Et c'est à Sophia qu'on le viole le plus ouvertement et c'est à Constantinople qu'on semble le moins ému de cette violation. || Qu'il y ait là un état de choses recélant de sérieux dangers, de périlleux encouragements — qui oserait le nier?

Nr. 9234. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Pforte hat eine energische Beschwerdenote nach Sophia wegen der Adresse der Sobranje an den Fürsten gesandt und den Nachdruck des Artikels im „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg" vom 29. Juni verboten; Gerüchte über russische Rüstungen. [B. 77.]

Therapia, July 2, 1886.

Nr. 9234. England. 2. Juli 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that the Porte have received the text of the reply of the Bulgarian Assembly to Prince Alexander's speech on the opening of its Session, which they consider to be a reproduction in more objectionable terms of the language held by His Highness. || The Grand Vizier, as I have been told, has addressed a fresh remonstrance to the Prince, calling his attention to the danger and conse-

quences of such utterances, in view especially of Russia's unfriendly disposition towards His Highness, who is at the same time given to understand that it would be unwise of him to rely upon the assistance of the European Powers, including even England, in the event of Russian action. I understand, that the wording of the Grand Vizier's observations is very energetic. Nr. 9234. England. 2. Juli 1886.

The Porte have learnt that the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" has published a somewhat violent article, holding them chiefly responsible for the speech and other acts of the Prince. The telegrams addressed to the local papers giving the substance of this article have been suppressed by order of the Porte. || Rumours are in circulation here that a large Russian force is being concentrated in Bessarabia, that the troops now in the Crimea have received secret orders that they are to remain there for another year, and that the Russian Government are negotiating with that of Roumania for the passage of their troops through the latter country. I have not, however, received any official information confirming the above statements; and respecting the alleged negotiations with the Roumanian Government for permission for the passage of Russian troops through their country, I have reason to believe, that the report is unfounded. || I have, &c.

Edwd. Thornton.

Nr. 9235. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über russische Umtriebe in Ostrumelien zur Herbeiführung einer Revolution und über die erfolgreiche innere Politik des Fürsten und seiner Regierung. [B. 85.]

Sophia, Juli 10, 1886.

My Lord, || I am aware, that there is a general impression in foreign countries that a very serious crisis is impending. I venture, therefore, to submit to your Lordship the following considerations, which have convinced me that there is now no real reason for such apprehensions, however much it may be to the interest of certain Powers to encourage a belief in them. || I think there can be no doubt, that great efforts were made during the recent elections in Eastern Roumelia to create serious disturbances, with the view of justifying a demand for a Russian occupation. The Government, however, took their precautions, and although disturbances did take place in certain localities they were promptly suppressed, and were not serious enough to furnish a pretext for foreign interference. The opponents of the Prince then built their hopes on the action of the Opposition, and it seemed at one time probable that the Chamber might be induced to reject the Turco-Bulgarian arrangement altogether, and demand a complete union. This danger was averted, partly by a reconciliation which was brought about between M. Karaveloff and M. Radoslavoff, whose dissensions had gone far to weaken the position of the Govern- Nr. 9235. England. 10. Juli 1886.

Nr. 9235. England. 10. Juli 1886.

ment, and partly by the allusion to the union contained in Prince Alexander's speech, and the Chamber showed their confidence in the Government by the moderation of the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. The Government are now sure of the majority of the Chamber, and are quite strong enough to maintain order. || With regard to the opinion, that Prince Alexander would probably proclaim himself King of an united Bulgaria, and that the first result of this action would be that Macedenia would be joined to the new Bulgaria, I am convinced that His Highness is endowed with too much political sagacity to adopt such a course, which would only increase the difficulties of his position. That Macedonia, or, at all events, a large portion of it, will eventually be united to this country, is a belief which is held by almost all Bulgarians. There seems to be very little doubt, that attempts have recently been made to stir up a revolution in that country; but as I had the honour to report in my despatch No. 155 of the 15th ultimo, Prince Alexander has discouraged such proceedings, and I understand that His Highness stated recently to one of my colleagues that he had complete control over the Macedonian movement, and that, so long as that was the case, there was no fear of an insurrection breaking out. || The apprehensions, therefore, of fresh troubles arising in the Balkan Peninsula, do not seem to be justified by the internal condition of Bulgaria, and I am convinced that both Prince Alexander and his Government will do their utmost to prevent such troubles arising. The danger which threatens the peace of this part of the world is, in my opinion, to be sought for outside rather than inside Bulgaria. It is evident, that Russia will do all she can to regain the position she formerly held here, the loss of which was due entirely to the action of her own Agents. The attempts she has hitherto made to recover her influence have signally failed, and I do not see any probability of their being more successful in the future by any means short of actual force. I believe, that the only way in which this country can again fall under Russian control would be a military occupation. Whether Russia is prepared to go this length, or whether she could do so without causing a general war, are questions on which I am not in a position to express an opinion; but I do not see anything in the internal state of Bulgaria to justify the belief, that we are on the eve of a serious crisis. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9236. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Uebersendet den folgenden Artikel der Nowoje Wremja*). [B. 89.]

Nr. 9236. England. 15. Juli 1886.

The "Novoye Vremya" of the 3rd (15th) July, 1886, in an article headed "The Beginning of the End," calls attention to the fact that, although the term

*) Er bemerkt dabei: "Seeing the censure to which the press is subjected in Russia, this is the most distinctly threatening article that has appeared for some time."

of three months within which the Commission for the Revision of the Organic Statute of Eastern Roumelia was to be named is drawing to its close, the Bulgarian Government show no signs of an intention to appoint Commissioners, in spite of the representations of the porte. || As the "Statute" would be likely to imped the attempts of the Bulgarian Government to knit closer the union with Eastern Roumelia, they are likely to throw every possible obstacle in the way of the appointment of the Commission. || "Russian diplomacy, however," continues the "Novoye Vremya," "considers the Turco-Bulgarian Agreement a document the terms of which are binding equally on both parties. An open evasion by either side of the conditions of the instrument will call for the serious attention of Russia. But mere representations will hardly effect their purpose, unless we have the other Great Powers with us; but to judge from the tone of their official organs, there is little chance of this. || Accordingly, no representations must be expected from us, except in conjunction with a firm resolve to proceed to more energetic measures in case of the refusal of our legitimate demands. In view of the drawing near of the end of the term, the Powers have already been exchanging views on the subject. It is absolutely necessary, that some agreement should be arrived at as to what is to be done in case of opposition from Bulgaria. Probably no such agreement will be come to. In that case, if we make any serious representation to Bulgaria and Turkey, such a step must be considered as a proof and sign that we are about to enter upon more energetic action in the Bulgarian question. || We are gradually reaching a stage in that question when it will become necessary for us either to let it alone altogether, or to adopt a policy of action."

Nr. 9236. England. 15. Juli 1886.

Nr. 9237. **SERBIEN.** — Thronrede des Königs Milan bei Eröffnung der Skuptschina am 19. Juli. [B. 91.]

(Translation.)

Honourable Deputies, || Welcome to this House as the Representatives of my dear and faithful people. Where duty calls you to labour with sentiments of loyalty towards your King and your country, in order that the restored peace be employed as a means for the careful furtherance of all those conditions which are necessary for the progress of the country and for the insurance of its vital interests. || In the name of those vital interests, as well as in defence of the country's honour, I, faithful to the traditional policy of my house, and in conjunction with the voice of the nation clearly expressed in the last National Skuptchina, accepted the state of open enmity which Bulgaria created. || With a full heart, and inspired with a feeling of duty, I wish my first word on this solemn but eagerly awaited meeting with you to be an expression of my profound gratitude for the unanimity shown by my dear people, as also

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for the faithfulness with which my dear army has borne all the sacrifices in the service of the country.

Honourable Deputies, || Although our efforts have not been crowned with success, and although prudence demanded that we should accede to the unanimous desire of the European Great Powers, as well as of the Suzerain Power of the Principality with which we were at war, to conclude peace, still the unanimity of my dear people proves how much Servia is at all times awake to defend her "State idea," and that she is always prepared to respect International Treaties and to protest against the partial infraction of the equilibrium on the Balkanic Peninsula. || Our relations with the Principality of Bulgaria are the same now as they were previous to the war. || It is with pleasure I state, that the relations of the kingdom with the other neighbouring States are not only regular, but also friendly, and my chief care in the future will be to see that they continue so, and be still more strengthened.

Honourable Deputies, || During the legislative period which is about to be opened your King expects, that you, conscious of the important task which you have in hand, and with impartial patriotism, will devote yourselves to the serious and profitable works for strengthening Servia, and also to the reforms in all the branches of public life. And above all, in this Session, I call upon you to take notice of all the laws and legislative measures which I have, on the authority of the rights accorded to me by the Constitution, prescribed during the extraordinary circumstances in which the country has been placed.

Honourable Deputies, || During your coming labours the arragement of financial questions will deserve your special attention. My Government will fully acquaint you with the condition of the Stat finances. Led by a desire to realize larger savings in the State expenditure, without injouring the important requirements of the State, they will submit to you proposals by which the State Budget will be put on a sound basis. || Fully convinced, that you will justify the confidence with which I look upon you, and wishing you joy in your labours, I declare, that the Session of the National Skuptchina for 1885 is opened.

Nisch, July 7 (19), 1886. Milan.

Nr. 9238. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland hat der bulgarischen Regierung erklärt, dass Schritte zur Herstellung guter Beziehungen von Seiten Russlands nicht geschehen könnten, solange das gegenwärtige Regiment bestehen bleibe. [B. 99.]

Sophia, July 22, 1886.

Nr. 9238. England. 22. Juli 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to my despatch of the 11th instant*), I have the honour to report, that M. Tsanow informed me some days ago that

*) Damals hatte Lascelles berichtet, dass Karaweloff und Stambuloff, um dem von der Opposition geplanten gleichen Schritte zuvorzukommen, sich an den russischen

M. Bogdanoff had communicated to him a telegram he had received from St. Petersburgh in reply to the communication made to him by MM. Karaveloff and Stambouloff respecting the wish of the Bulgarians for a reconciliation with Russia. The reply stated, that the Russian Government continued to entertain the greatest sympathy for Bulgaria and the Bulgarians, but that they did not consider that they could take any steps in the direction indicated by MM. Karaveloff and Stambouloff as long as the present Government remained in power in Bulgaria. M. Bogdanoff added, that the term "Government" was not to be understood as applying to the Council of Ministers. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9238. England. 22. Juli 1886.

Nr. 9239. **BULGARIEN.** — Thronrede des Fürsten Alexander beim Schlusse der Sobranje. [B. 101.]

(Translation.)

Gentlemen, || I observe with much satisfaction, that you have fulfilled my hopes and expectations, and that you have fully justified the confidence placed in you by my people on both sides of the Balkan. || Your labours during the six weeks' sittings of this Extraordinary Session have clearly proved, that you know how to protect the true interests of the State, and work earnestly to further the progress and succes of our country. || You have caused me much pleasure, gentlemen, by voting all the laws and measures laid before you by my Government, and especially the Law for the purchase of the Varna-Rustchuk Railway, in accepting which you have proved that Bulgaria knows how to fulfil honourably her international obligations. || Thanking you heartily for your zeal and for your patriotic labours, and wishing you a happy return to your homes, I declare the present Extraordinary Session of the Fourth Ordinary National Assembly closed.

Nr. 9239. Bulgarien. 23. Juli 1886.

Nr. 9240. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Die deutsche Regierung ist über den Verlauf der Dinge in Bulgarien wieder mehr beruhigt. [B. 92.]

(Extract.) Berlin, July 24, 1886.

Count Berchem, when I saw him to-day, told me, that the latest reports which he had received from Bulgaria were far more satisfactory than the preceding ones, and that he thought we might now count with some confidence on things being kept quiet there.

Nr. 9240. England. 24. Juli 1886.

Vertreter in Sophia Bogdanoff gewandt hatten, um im Namen der Regierung und der Kammer ihre Hoffnung auf die Wiederherstellung guter Beziehungen zu Russland auszusprechen. [B. 86.]

Nr. 9241. SERBIEN. — Adresse der Skuptschina an den König zur Beantwortung der Thronrede*). [B. 95.]

(Translation.)

Nr. 9241. Serbien. 24. Juli 1886.

King and Sire, || The National House of Assembly has received thy Royal greeting with the unalterable devotion which Servia yields to her first King. It has learnt with joy the Royal confidence reposed in it, and, conscious of its duty, it will sedulously strive to improve the conditions necessary for the welfare of the Fatherland and for the protection of the vital interests of Servia. || And it is right, King and Sire, that thou shouldst look with trust to thy nation, for the Servian people clearly behold in thee the bright example of the fulfilment of its holy duties, since thou, in presence of the peril threatening our national future, hast always despised danger to thyself, even when the great and mighty have hesitated to care for the maintenance of Treaties, which a cunning hand has begun partially to infringe. With the approval of thy people and foreseeing the dangerous consequences of such an act, thou didst call under the Royal flag thy faithful army to raise an armed protest against the disturbance of peace and against the doctrine of aggression in the Balkan Peninsula. || The relations to the neighbouring Principality are at the present just the same as they were before the war, for at the moment when thou couldst point to the new ranks of the Servian army eagerly advancing towards the battle-field to encounter the enemy, at the moment when thou hadst a firm support in the Servian people, to whom no sacrifices could be too much, prudence demanded us to stop, in accordance with the desire of the Great European Powers, before we could be enabled, arms in hand, to retrieve the position we held towards a neighbour, to secure whose friendship not even our great sacrifices, nor the precious blood of the Servian nation shed for our common liberty, has sufficed. || But even after this peace, Sire, thy Royal standard floats with enhanced lustre, for it is emblazoned with the symbol of Servian aspiration. The bones of our sons beyond Presnik, Trn, Vrapchi, Koulé and Archer-Palanka have marked with heroic signs how deep is our confidence and earnestness in the defence of the Servian State idea. For centuries the Servian people has shed its blood in defence of the vital interests and honour of Servia, which have thus become sanctified in the eyes of

*) Der englische Vertreter in Belgrad bemerkt am 25. Juli bei Uebersendung der oben abgedruckten Uebersetzung der Adresse: The Committee named to frame the Address was divided in opinion as to the terms to be adopted, and two drafts were prepared, that drawn up by the majority of the Committee being supported by the Government, and its acceptance by the Skuptchina being made a question of confidence. The Address thus submitted was eventually carried after a rather stormy debate by 82 votes to 37, and I beg to inclose a translation of it. || The drift of the Address advocated by the minority was to dwell upon the necessity for a reform of the Constitution, and in condemning the late war, to set forth the expediency of establishing thoroughly amicable relations with Bulgaria as with other States on the Peninsula.

every Servian. Let whosoever will not take due account of this know to-day that, costly as are the sacrifices made by Servia and her people, both will accept yet heavier ones in the future in their constant readiness to defend the State idea and protest against the one-sided disturbance of the equilibrium on the Balkan Peninsula. || In this belief, and receiving with enthusiasm the expression of thy Royal thanks for the unanimity of thy people, allow us, Sire, not to let this solemn opportunity pass without saying how deeply we feel that our unanimity has developed itself in the warm sunshine of thy Princely nobility, and professing our belief that thy readiness to share in all perils, efforts, and hardships has largely contributed as an example to thy faithful army and people in bearing the sacrifices imposed upon them. Nr. 9241. Serbien. 24. Juli 1886.

King and Sire, || Hailing with satisfaction the good and friendly relations between Servia and other neighbouring States, and confident that the King of Servia will uphold and still further strengthen those relations for the general good of our Fatherland, we are firmly resolved to devote our best efforts to serious and profitable labours for strengthening Servia, and to deal in an impartial spirit with proposals for reform in various branches of public life. || The National House will study with special attention all the financial questions on which depends the weal of our State organization. The Royal Government will find in the House sincere readiness to effect all possible economies in the State expenditure, and place our State Budget on a sound basis, reposing in a real financial balance.

For the success of the Fatherland and for the glory of thy Royal Crown, in the brigthness of which the National Representatives see their own glory and greatness, they devotedly cry: || "Long live Milan the First, King of Servia!" || "Long live Nathalie, Queen of Servia!" || "Long live His Royal Highness Alexander, Heir-Apparent to the Servian Throne!"

President of the National Skuptchina, George Pavlovitch.
Vice-President, Milan Zounitch.

(Here follow the names of the Secretaries and Deputies of the Skuptchina.)

Nisch. July 12 (24), 1886.

Nr. 9242. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Bewilligungen der Sobranje zu militärischen Ausgaben und über beruhigende Erklärungen des Fürsten Alexander darüber. [B. 102.]

Sophia, July 24, 1886.

My Lord, || During the recent Session of the Bulgarian Chamber a secret sitting was held, at which the Minister of War demanded a credit of 36,000,000 fr. for military purposes, in addition to the amount included in the ordinary Budget. He proposed, that this credit should be spread over Nr. 9242. England. 24. Juli 1886.

Nr. 9242. England. 24. Juli 1886.

five years, and asked that 15,000,000 fr. should be placed at the disposal of the Government during the current year. || I understand, that the Chamber decided in principle that the money should be voted; but they only granted 12,000,000 fr. for the current year, and left the amount to be granted for subsequent years to be voted as the occasion should arise. || Prince Alexander has informed me, that it has been absolutely necessary to repair the losses in military material which were occasioned by the war. For this purpose it would be necessary to purchase at least 50,000 new rifles and to buy some more cannon, in order to have only one system of artillery, and thus avoid the inconvenience and confusion which occurred during the war from having different sorts of artillery. || His Highness added, that he had requested my German and Austrian colleagues to assure their Governments, that the demand for money made by the Minister of War was not in consequence of any aggressive intentions on the part of Bulgaria. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9243. ENGLAND. — Generalconsul in Salonichi an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über Umtriebe bulgarischer Panslavisten in Macedonien. [B. 108.]

Salonica, July 27, 1886.

Nr. 9243. England. 27. Juli 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that I have been confidentially informed that the Panslav Committee in Bulgaria has sent secret agents to Monastir and other Bulgarian centres in Macedonia to get the Christian inhabitants to sign Petitions to the Signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin, protesting against Turkish misrule, and praying that the Sultan should be required to execute the provisions of the Treaty securing for this province the right of local self-government. || I have, &c.

J. E. Blunt.

Nr. 9244. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — Die militärischen Bewegungen in Serbien sind nur zum Schutze gegen befürchtete Aufstandsversuche geschehen aber ohne Mobilisirung. [B. 107.]

Belgrade, July 28, 1886.

Nr. 9244. England. 28. Juli 1886.

My Lord, || I am told, that not long ago the Servian Government entertained a good deal of apprehension of incursions being made across the frontier and disturbances fomented within the borders of the country itself. If not actually engendered thereby, the feeling was no doubt strengthened by the proceedings of the Prince of Montenegro and his son-in-law Prince Peter Karageorgevitch, whose recent appearance before the public could not fail to

arouse attention here. The latter cannot boast of any genuine support in this country, but aided, or abetted, by the numerous refugees in the neighbouring States, he might be capable of mischief among the malcontents in the country itself, who would perhaps seize any opportunity for bringing about a change in the system of administration pursued by King Milan. || My informant said, that the anxiety of the Government had been such as to make it think seriously of increasing the military forces at its disposal now that the army is on a peace footing, but the difficulties to be met in the way of consequent expense were great, and the immediate danger seems, moreover, to have been considerably lessened since the visit of the Prince of Montenegro to Vienna, where he appears to have received some sound advice as to the inexpediency of conniving with his neighbour's enemies. || If any attack were made, it was expected, that it would probably take the form of a combined movement from the southward, on one side, and across the Timok from Bulgaria, on the other; and to check any rising it is said to be certain, that troops were ordered in both directions, the bulk of them in the former, ostensibly for manoeuvring purposes, and the rest to furnish assistance in closing the frontier on the side of Widdin, for which the outbreak of cattle plague in that quarter, in the shape of a dangerous kind of scab, afforded a show of pretext. || It is possible that intelligence of these movements of troops reached Sophia in an exaggerated form, and gave rise to the rumour of Servian mobilization about which Sir F. Lascelles telegraphed to your Lordship yesterday. || I have, &c.

William A. C. Barrington.

Nr. 9244. England. 28. Juli 1886.

Nr. 9245. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Graf Kálnoky, beunruhigt durch die militärischen Vorbereitungen der Pforte im Hinblick auf die bulgarischen Rüstungen, hat in Sophia Vorstellungen gemacht und auf die Grundlosigkeit der Besorgniss vor Serbien hingewiesen. [B. 98.]

Vienna, August 1, 1886.

My Lord, || Having had occasion to call upon Count Kálnoky to-day, his Excellency during the course of our interview read me a telegram which he had received from Constantinople stating that owing to the armaments which were going on in Bulgaria the Porte had decided on again mobilizing the two corps d'armée at Adrianople and Iskup, and on recalling the reserves which had been disbanded. || After remarking upon the very heavy sacrifice which was thus entailed upon the impoverished Turkish Exchequer, and the danger to peace which must result from the adoption of such military preparations, Count Kálnoky said he had telegraphed to Sophia to make inquiries as to the truth of the armaments attributed to Bulgaria, to urge their discontinuance

Nr. 9245. England. 1. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9245. England. 1. Aug. 1886. should they really have been commenced, adding that the alarms respecting Servian warlike preparations are perfectly groundless, his Excellency having ascertained, he said, that the movements of some Servian regiments which had not long since taken place, and which, it seems, have attracted considerable attention in Bulgaria, had only been caused for the purpose of defending certain districts bordering on the Montenegrin frontier from brigandage, and apprehended movements which were said to be encouraged by Prince Karageorgevitch, and that the calling out of some of the militia regiments was only for the usual annual exercises. || I have, &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 9246. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Auswärt. — Graf Kálnoky ist von der Friedensliebe Serbiens überzeugt, aber durch die Haltung des Fürsten Alexander beunruhigt. [B. 103.]

Vienna, August 2, 1886.

Nr. 9246. England. 2 Aug. 1886. My Lord, || With reference to my despatch of yesterday's date, relative to the intelligence which Count Kálnoky had received from Constantinople respecting Bulgarian armaments, and the steps he had taken in consequence at Sophia, I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that his Excellency further expressed the conviction that neither King Milan nor his Government had the slightest intention of recommencing hostilities against Bulgaria. || Count Kálnoky again dwelt, as he had so often done before, upon the absolute necessity for Prince Alexander observing the utmost prudence and caution in all his proceedings. It would be deeply to be regretted if anything should take place to embroil or diminish his good relations with the Porte, and especially should he be careful not to do anything which could give a pretext (not now existing) for any foreign interference. || His Excellency said, that he never ceased giving advice in this sense to the Prince, and as far as the language of His Highness went nothing could be more satisfactory, but language after all was not of much avail unless supported by facts. || Count Kálnoky said, that he could not blame, on the contrary he quite approved, the Porte for being vigilant in Macedonia, where the situation was always critical, and he trusted that the word of Prince Alexander that he would discountenance any movement in that quarter might be relied upon. || I have, &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 9247. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die militärischen Maassregeln Bulgariens tragen keinen beunruhigenden Charakter. [B. 104.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 4, 1886, 1·20 P.M.

Nr. 9247. England. 4. Aug. 1886. With regard to Sir A. Paget's telegram of 1st instant, there are no armaments taking place or in contemplation here justifying alleged apprehensions

of Porte, excepting military vote by Chamber for defensive purposes referred to in Sir F. Lascelles' despatch of 24th ultimo. Prince Alexander promises that any Bulgarian military preparations shall be notified to me, and His Highness attributes present alarm to statements made by Turkish Commander at Adrianople, which are exaggerated. Formation of new regiment at Philippopoli which took place recently has entailed usual artillery complement. This consists of forty-six guns, larger portion of which have been forwarded, explanations being previously sent to Porte.

Nr. 9247. England. 4. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9248. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Meldet die Ankunft der türkischen Delegirten zur Revision des organischen Statuts in Sophia*). [B. 105.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 4, 1886, 1·20 P.M.

Turkish Commissioners for the revision of the organic Statute of Eastern Roumelia have arrived. The following general instructions are about to be issued to Bulgarian Commissioners:— || Agreement to be arrived at as to financial questions and single Article handing over administration to Prince, which will have to be skilfully drafted. || Second Bulgarian Commissioner, mentioned in my telegram of the 30th ultimo, having refused the appointment offered him**), M. Michaeloffski has been appointed in his place.

Nr. 9248. England. 4. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9249. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Stimmung der bulgarischen Regierung bei Beginn der Berathungen des Statuts. [B. 110.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 11, 1886, 1 A.M.

I am privately informed, that Turkish Commissioners for the revision of Eastern Roumelian Organic Statute have been instructed to commence by insisting on maintenance of Statute. || I think the Bulgarian Government fully realizes the importance and advantage of respecting as much as possible, so far as form is concerned, the susceptibilities of the Sultan, and is prepared to be liberal in financial questions. || There is little hope of things quieting down in the peninsula so long as the question of the revision of the Organic Statute remains unsettled; and from careful inquiries made, I greatly fear that, if Russia should succeed in paralyzing negotiations, discontent in Eastern

Nr. 9249. England. 11. Aug. 1886.

*) Mit ihnen war auch Gadban Effendi nach Sophia gereist. [B. 97.]

**) Es war Kyriak Zaukoff, Neffe des früheren Premiers; der andere Delegirte war Demitroff, Präfect von Philippopel. [B. 96.]

Nr. 9249. England. 11. Aug. 1886. Roumelia may possibly develop into serious danger. || The Commission will meet for the first time to-morrow.

Nr. 9250. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Nachrichten über serbische Rüstungen haben in Bulgarien Beunruhigung hervorgerufen. [B. 111.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 11, 1886, 1·40 A.M.

Nr. 9250. England. 11. Aug. 1886. News received regarding armaments in Servia has alarmed Bulgarian Government, and certainly movements and preparations on frontier are suspicious. I am, however, still inclined to think, that they rather indicate Servia's desire to take advantage of any complications that may eventually arise out of the negotiations with regard to the Organic Statute for Eastern Roumelia than of any intention of picking a quarrel immediately.

Nr. 9251. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Auswärtigen. — Die Befürchtungen wegen serbischer Rüstungen sind ganz unbegründet. [B. 113.]

(Telegraphic.) Belgrade, August 12, 1886, 11·15 A.M.

Nr. 9251. England. 12. Aug. 1886. The news mentioned by Mr. Stephen in his telegram of the 11th instant is quite at variance with what I am told here. To judge from both official and independent assurances, Servia can be hardly suspected of aggressive intentions against Bulgaria; and the apprehensions about the supposed Servian armaments seem to be without foundation.

(Sent to Sophia.)

Nr. 9252. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander macht England auf die serbischen Rüstungen aufmerksam und erklärt die Nothwendigkeit von Vorsichtsmaassregeln. [B. 116.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 12, 1886.

Nr. 9252. England. 12. Aug. 1886. I was sent for by Prince Alexander, who asked me to communicate following to your Lordship:—

Large quantities of military stores and food supplies have been collected at Nisch, Pirot and Alexinatz; at the two former places portions of reserves have been called out; recruits that should have been called out in the autumn were called out two weeks ago; Servian peasants have been told that they should get in the harvest before 27th of this month; Tzaribrod frontier is being strongly fortified, and a new road made in direction of Pernik. Forti-

fications on frontier were inspected by the Servian Commander-in-chief five days ago; Servian officers talk openly of outbreak of war at an early date; since Treaty of Peace Servia has purchased and received 127,000 rounds of shell, 100,000 rifles, 254 new guns, and 34,000,000 rounds of ammunition. Bulgaria can no longer remain inactive in presence of these facts, and at Council last night it was decided that four battalions should be sent to Pernik to construct fortifications. No further military measures will be taken at present.

(Sent to Constantinople and Belgrade.)

Nr. 9252. England. 12. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9253. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander lehnt die Initiative zur Herstellung der diplomatischen Beziehungen zu Serbien ab. [B. 118.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 13, 1886, 12·10 A M.

Austrian Representative, before starting yesterday for Vienna, whither he is proceeding on two months' leave of absence, asked Prince Alexander whether His Highness was prepared to renew diplomatic relations with Servia. Prince Alexander replied, that it was not possible for Bulgaria to move in the matter after refusal by Servia during peace negotiations, but he could tell Austrian Government that, if proposed by Servia or third party, Bulgaria would agree.

I have communicated the above information to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna.

Nr. 9253. England. 13. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9254. TÜRKEI. — Gesandter in Belgrad an den serbischen Min. des Ausw. — Begehrt genaue Klarstellung der aus Sophia eingelaufenen Nachrichten von serbischen Rüstungen. [B. 155.]

Belgrade, le 1er (13) (Août), 1886.

M. le Ministre, || J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que le Gouvernement Princier de Bulgarie vient d'informer mon Gouvernement que des préparatifs militaires se poursuivent activement en Serbie; qu'outre les 100,000 fusils qu'elle possède elle vient de recevoir 100,000 autres ainsi que 30,000,000 de cartouches et 265 nouvelles bouches à feu; qu'à Pirot, qui a été érigé en une véritable place de guerre, on a emmagasiné des munitions et approvisionnements pour trois mois pouvant suffir à une armée de 100,000 hommes, que ce même système d'approvisionnement est établi à Nisch et à Alexinatz; qu'ordre a été donné à tous les villages frontières d'enlever les récoltes avant le 15 Août prochain; que les recrues qui ne devaient être appelées qu'au

Nr. 9254. Turkei. 13. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9254. Türkei. 13. Aug. 1886.

15 Novembre le sont déjà depuis une vingtaine de jours; qu'enfin deux classes de réserves sont versées successivement dans les bataillons respectifs, et qu'on élève des ouvrages fortifiés et des campements militaires sur toutes les positions importantes de la frontière. || Ces informations ne manquent certes pas de gravité, et le Gouvernement Impérial, dans son désir de voir le maintien et la consolidation des rapports de parfaite amitié qui existe si heureusement entre les deux États, et soucieux en même temps de la préservation de toute atteinte de la Principauté de Bulgarie qui forme partie intégrante de l'Empire Ottoman, n'a rien de plus à coeur que de ne point ajouter foi à ces mesures de préparatifs militaires, à la suite surtout des assurances formelles et amicales que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi et la Légation Royale à Constantinople ont bien voulu donner récemment à la Sublime Porte sur le malfondé des renseignements relatifs aux armements en Serbie. || Je suis donc chargé par le Gouvernement Impérial de prier votre Excellence de me fixer d'une manière catégorique sur les faits que j'ai eu l'honneur de mentionner ci-haut, afin qu'il soit à même de mettre vis-à-vis de la Principauté vassale, qui lui demande l'autorisation d'armer à son tour, les faits sous leur véritable jour, et de donner par là une nouvelle consécration aux relations de paix et de bon voisinage qui doivent exister entre la Serbie et la Principauté de Bulgarie. || En attendant la réponse de votre Excellence à cet égard, je saisis, &c.

Mahmoud Nédim.

Nr. 9255. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Kálnoky erklärt die Nachrichten von serbischen Rüstungen für falsch; spricht über das Scheitern seiner Vermittlung zur Herstellung diplomatischer Beziehungen zwischen Serbien und Bulgarien und antwortet Russland beruhigend auf die Nachrichten betreffs der bulgarischen Rüstungen*). [B. 122.]

(Extract.) Vienna, August 14, 1886.

Nr. 9255. England. 14. Aug. 1886.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, and to inform your Lordship, that I had an interview this afternoon with Count Kálnoky and acquainted him with it.

In reply to the inquiry as to the information possessed by the Austrian Government respecting Servian armaments, and whether the Austrian Government was disposed to take any action to restrain the Government of Servia from rash movements, his Excellency stated, very decidedly, that he would certainly not take any action to prevent Servia doing what he was perfectly

*) Diese Erklärungen Kálnokys theilt Lord Iddesleigh am 17. d. M. dem Vertreter in Sophia mit. [B. 130.]

convinced she does not intend to do. || His Excellency then proceeded to say, that, in consequence of representations made to him respecting Servian armaments from Constantinople and Sophia, he had instructed the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires at Belgrade to obtain positive and categorical information from the Servian Government on the subject, and he then read to me the telegraphic reply which he had just received. || The Austrian Chargé d'Affaires states, that he had seen the Prime Minister and the Minister for Foreign Affairs together, and that they had both assured him that Servia was too much occupied with her internal affairs to have any thoughts of war, for which she had neither the slightest desire nor any money; that there was no concentration of troops, and that no reserves had been called out. || The Servian Prime Minister is proceeding abroad on six weeks' leave of absence, which, in Count Kálnoky's opinion, is in itself a sufficient proof that no aggressive action is contemplated. || The Ministers, moreover, stated to the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, that, should there be any movement in the Balkans, Servia would be the last to mix up in it. || Count Kálnoky informed me, that he was telegraphing the above information to Constantinople and Sophia.

His Excellency stated, that previous to his visit to Gastein he had received an application from the Prince of Bulgaria begging him to employ his good offices in order to induce the Servian Government to renew diplomatic relations with Bulgaria, and he had promised to do so; but on his return to Vienna he had been greeted by a message from His Highness to the effect that unless Servia gave tranquillizing assurances respecting her armaments, and a promise to renew diplomatic relations within a few days, he should himself send troops to the frontier. Under these circumstances Count Kálnoky said he could not interfere further in the matter. His Excellency has information, that, after visiting Slivnitza, the Prince immediately ordered a regiment to proceed there.

This morning the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, Count Kálnoky told me, had come to him with a telegram from the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, where the greatest alarm was said to prevail respecting the Prince's military preparations, and the Turkish Ambassador had also spoken to his Excellency on the subject. || It appear, that Prince Alexander has ordered the regiments and reserves in Eastern Roumelia to be ready at a moment's notice. || Count Kálnoky said, that he had tried to calm the Russian Chargé d'Affaires by telling him that the reports were probably exaggerated, and that he was sure the Prince would not begin a war for which there was no pretext or provocation.

Nr. 9256. **ENGLAND.** — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Berichtet über die Differenzen der bulgarischen Behörden mit dem russischen Viceconsul über den Prozess des Kapitäns Nabokoff. [B. 246.]

Bourgas, August 14, 1886.

Nr. 9256. England. 14. Aug. 1886.

Sir, || I have the honour to bring to the notice of your Excellency the following fact, which has been communicated to me by my Russian colleague, M. Emélianoff. || Four days ago the Russian Government, in protesting to the Government of Bulgaria against the inordinate length of time which the trial of the persons charged with complicity in the plot to assassinate His Highness the Prince of Bulgaria has already lasted, and taking into consideration the absence of any immediate prospect of a decision being arrived at on the case, made a formal demand that the Russian subject, Captain Nabokoff, one of those who, it is alleged, were implicated in the conspiracy, should be put on his trial at once before the local Tribunal in accordance with Roumeliote procedure, *i.e.*, without a jury. || The following day M. Emélianoff received a telegram from Sophia, informing him that the Bulgarian Government had acceded to the Russian demand, and that the trial would take place forthwith under the stipulated conditions. || On M. Emélianoff's communicating the substance of this telegram to the Prefect and the Procureur, those officials disavowed all knowledge of the matter, averring that they had received as yet no instructions in the sense indicated by the Russian Vice-Consul. || As regards the demand of the Russian Government, that the trial of Captain Nabokoff should take place without a jury, the reason alleged is that were the ordinary Bulgarian procedure complied with, one month would pass, and not improbably two, before all the formalities necessary for the selection of a jury could be observed, and, consequently, much time would be lost before the trial could be proceeded with. || I have, &c. W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9257. **SERBIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den türkischen Gesandten in Belgrad. — Erklärt auf das bestimmteste alle von der bulgarischen Regierung in Umlauf gesetzten Nachrichten über serbische Rüstungen für falsch und behauptet, dass dieselben nur erfunden seien, um die Aufmerksamkeit der Pforte von den Vorbereitungen Bulgariens abzulenken. [B. 155.]

Belgrade, le 4 (16) Août, 1886.

Nr. 9257. Serbien. 16. Aug. 1886.

M. le Ministre, || J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir la note que le Chargé d'Affaires Impérial Ottoman m'a adressé en date du 1er (13) courant.

A la suite des assurances formelles et amicales récemment données à la Sublime Porte par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi et par la Légation

Nr. 9257. Serbien. 16. Aug. 1886.

Royale à Constantinople, j'aurais été en droit, M. l'Envoyé, d'espérer que je n'aurais plus l'occasion de devoir m'expliquer sur la question que traite la note précitée. Quelque peu motivée par les circonstances et la réalité des faits que fût la demande précédente d'explications je n'ai point hésité à les fournir, désireux de manifester ainsi le prix que la Serbie attache à la consolidation des rapports d'amitié qui existent si heureusement entre l'Empire et le Royaume, et si aujourd'hui la Sublime Porte malgré des déclarations très catégoriques paraît vouloir être de nouveau rassurée, je regrette de devoir constater qu'elle se base à cet effet sur les informations fantaisistes et les insinuations perfides du Gouvernement de la Principauté vassale.

Les événements qui se sont déroulés depuis le mois de Septembre dernier auraient pu également fixer le Gouvernement Impérial sur les véritables dipositions du Gouvernement vassal vis-à-vis de la Cour Suzeraine, et le prévenir contre des calomnies qui ne sont répandues que dans l'intention manifeste de détourner l'attention de la Sublime Porte de ce que la Principauté elle-même entreprend, et de lui procurer ainsi une liberté absolue pour toute action ultérieure qu'elle pourrait entreprendre au détriment des intérêts de l'Empire.

Néanmoins, en cet état de causes le Gouvernement Royal, tout en protestant de la manière la plus formelle contre les assertions fausses et imaginaires du Gouvernement Bulgare, n'hésite point à leur opposer par cette voie, et de nouveau, le démenti le plus catégorique. || Tous les points cités dans la note du Chargé d'Affaires Impérial Ottoman sont absolument erronés à l'exception d'un seul qui encore n'a point été présenté à la Sublime Porte sous son vrai jour.

Le Gouvernement Royal de Serbie fait aux environs de Priot réparer les travaux de fortifications passagères exécutés durant la guerre, travaux qui ont un caractère purement défensif et ne sont point par eux-mêmes déjà propres à recevoir des approvisionnements de guerre. || Il use en cela d'un droit incontestable qui ne saurait être mis en doute par personne et encore moins par le Gouvernement d'un pays voisin dont les droits en cette matière sont limités par les Traités, alors que ce même Gouvernement à Widdin sur les frontières de la Serbie exécute des travaux bien plus importants et d'un caractère autrement inquiétant.

Le Gouvernement Royal de Serbie, fermement décidé à respecter les clauses du Traité de Bucarest dont il a lui-même proposé la teneur, se plaît à donner par ses déclarations actuelles une nouvelle consécration aux relations de paix qui doivent exister entre la Serbie et le Gouvernement de la Principauté vassale de Bulgarie; mais il ne saurait un instant admettre que le Gouvernement de cette dernière justifie ses propres armements qui se font au su et vu de tout le monde par les soi-disant préparatifs militaires de la Serbie.

Il appartient à la Sublime Porte d'apprécier elle-même si l'autorisation que lui demande la Principauté vassale n'est pas uniquement sollicitée dans le but

Nr. 9257. Serbien. 16. Aug. 1886.

de masquer ses intentions inavouables. || Pour ce qui est du Gouvernement Royal, il croit par la sincérité et la franchise de ses assurances avoir fourni à la Sublime Porte des éléments nécessaires pour ne pas se laisser induire en erreur ni surprendre. || C'est dans ces sentiments, M. l'Envoyé, que j'ai l'honneur, &c.

Franassovitch.

Nr. 9258. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die geheimen Verhandlungen in den Sitzungen der türkisch-bulgarischen Commission zur Revision des ostrumelischen Statuts. [B. 260.]

Sophia, August 20, 1886.

Nr. 9258. England. 20 Aug. 1886.

My Lord, || As I have had the honour to report to your Lordship by telegraph, several meetings have already taken place of the Commission for the revision of the Eastern Roumelian Statute. || It was agreed, that secrecy should be observed with respect to its deliberations; but I have been confidentially furnished with a general outline of what has taken place, on the accuracy of which your Lordship can rely.

At the first meeting, which was held on the 11th instant, the usual formalities were gone through, with the exception of the customary exchange of credentials, regarding which no question was raised, the respective Commissioners having been formally introduced to each other two days previously by M. Tsanow at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. When the question subsequently arose as to the order of the day for the next sitting, the Turkish Delegates drew the attention of their Bulgarian colleagues to the wording of the Arrangement of the 5th April, and proposed that they should commence at the beginning of the Statute and discuss its revision Chapter by Chapter and Article by Article. The Bulgarian Commissioners replied, that it would be impossible to proceed in the manner indicated, for if they did their labours would be interminable; it was necessary, they said, to agree on some mode of procedure, and they therefore proposed that these preliminaries should be settled at a private sitting on the following day, a suggestion which was finally accepted.

On the 12th instant the Commission met as arranged at the house of Madjid Pasha and Abro Effendi, who again laid stress on the necessity of a detailed examination of the Statute in the manner they had proposed on the previous day. The Chief Bulgarian Commissioner thereupon proceeded to submit an exhaustive statement of the conflicting elements and discrepancies to be found in the provisions of the various Articles and Chapters of the Statute, the general unpractical working of which he maintained had proved to be detrimental to the prosperity, contentment and well-being of the inhabitants

of Eastern Roumelia. He concluded by urging his Turkish colleagues to agree to divide the labours of the Commission into the following three parts, viz.:—

1st. The sovereign rights of the Sultan;

2nd. Administrative powers;

3rd. Financial questions.

In reply, Abro Effendi said, that he saw no advantage whatever in adopting the above plan, for instead of facilitating their labours, so far as he could judge it would only increase them. Sooner or later, each Article would have to be considered, and the method proposed by M. Demitroff would only entail complications which would be avoided if they commenced at the beginning and discussed the various Articles as they came. However, as there was a divergence of opinion on this point, perhaps the better plan would be for the Bulgarian Commissioners to submit a more detailed scheme, indicating at the same time the course they would propose subsequently to adopt. In the meantime, he and Madjid Pasha would consider the proposal that had been made.

On the Commission reassembling on the 14th, the Turkish Commissioners drew attention to the fact, that the three points mentioned by M. Demitroff did not include "international rights," an objection which the Bulgarian Commissioners hastened to remove by expressing their readiness to add a fourth point, or even a fifth or sixth, in the event of its being proved that there were other provisions in the Statute not comprised under the headings specified. || The Turkish Commissioners, however, again expressed their inability to agree to this mode of procedure, and as the Bulgarian Delegates declared that they were unable to state their general proposals without previously consulting their Government, the meeting was adjourned. || On the Commission reassembling on the 16th, and M. Demitroff stating that he could not submit a "projet" until some agreement had been come to with regard to the order of procedure, the Turkish Delegates replied, that it was their earnest desire to arrive as soon as possible at some understanding, but they could not accept the Bulgarian proposal without further consideration, hinting that it would probably be necessary for them to refer the matter to the Sublime Porte for decision. || The Commission met again on the 18th, when the Turkish Delegates stated that they had thought it their duty to communicate to the Porte what had taken place, and to request instructions, and that as the reply might be delayed it would be well to adjourn the meeting to the 21st. This was agreed to. I have since heard, that, although the Porte has sent instructions to Abro Effendi and Madjid Pasha to insist on a detailed revision, it has directed them at the same time to refer the matter to Gadban Effendi for decision, in the event of their finding that there is no possibility of the Commission arriving at an agreement on the subject. || From what I am told I think it more than likely that, should the Bulgarian Delegates adhere to

Nr. 9258. England. 20. Aug. 1886.

their proposal, Gadban Effendi will yield on this point sooner than allow the negotiations to come to a dead-lock. || I have, &c.

A. Condie Stephen.

Nr. 9259. ITALIEN. — Viceconsul in Rustschuk an den Min. des Ausw. — Meldet die Absetzung des Fürsten Alexander und die Einsetzung einer provisorischen Regierung in Sophia*). [Gr. I, Anm.]

Nr. 9259. Italien. 21. Aug. 1886.

Russciuk, 21 agosto, 4.30 pom.: Telegrammi pervenuti dalla capitale, nella notte scorsa, alla prefettura, firmati Karaveloff, annunziano la deposizione del Principe e la composizione di un governo provvisorio, di cui sono membri gli antichi ministri, coi capi partito Zankoff, Stoiloff ed altri. Essi hanno prestato giuramento al governo provvisorio. Nel mattino fu proclamato lo stato d'assedio fino a nuovo ordine, con divieto assoluto di uscire dalle frontiere. Il Principe, in ispezione fuori della capitale, si troverebbe, pare, a Viddino. La popolazione di Russciuk è vivamente sorpresa, ma si mantiene calma. — Mazza.

Nr. 9260. BULGARIEN. — Proclamation der ersten provisorischen Regierung in Sophia an das Volk. [B. 290, 275; Gr. 3, Italienisch.]

Proclamation.

To the Bulgarian people!

(Translation.)

Nr. 9260. Bulgarien. 21. Aug. 1886.

To-day at 2 A.M. Prince Alexander of Battenberg renounced the Bulgarian Throne for ever, and signed a formal abdication, being convinced that his rule is harmful to the Bulgarian nation. || In view of this extraordinary and important crisis a Provisional Government has been formed of the following persons:—

President, the Metropolitan Clement.
Minister of War, Major Nikiforoff.
Minister of Interior, D. Zankoff.
Minister of Finance, Th. Bourmoff.
Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ch. Stojanoff.
Minister of Justice, Radoslavoff.
Minister of Education, Velitchkoff.

The Provisional Government, in undertaking the administration of the

*) Dies war die erste Nachricht, welche die Regierung von den Vorgängen erhielt; 3 Depeschen des Vertreters in Sophia kamen infolge der Unterbrechung des Telegraphen daselbst erst einige Tage später in Rom an. Die erste vom englischen Vertreter in Sophia am 22. August aufgegebene Depesche gelangte erst am 27. nach London. [B. 204.]

country until the Great National Assembly has pronounced itself, announces that the lives, property and honour of all Bulgarian citizens and foreign residents are fully guaranteed, and they are confident that all Bulgarian citizens, without distinction of creed, nationality and political convictions, will co-operate to maintain internal order and peace. || The Bulgarian nation may be quite assured that the great Russian Czar, the protector of Bulgaria, will not leave our country without his mighty protection and defence. Nr. 9260. Bulgarien. 21. Aug. 1886.

Long live the Bulgarian nation! Long live Bulgaria!

The President, Clement.

The Commander-in-chief, Major Grueff.

Nr. 9261. BULGARIEN. — Proclamation des Präsidenten der Sobranje an das Volk*). [B. 291.]

Proclamation of Tirnova.

(Translation.)

The National Assembly proclaims, that the Provisional Government, at the head of which stands Clement, and all who obey that Government, are placed outside the pale of the law. The Brigadier Mutkuroff is appointed Commander-in-chief of all the Bulgarian forces, and all civil and military authorities are hereby called on to obey the orders they will receive from him. All the sons of Bulgaria, our fatherland, are called on to assist against the traitors who have sought to dethrone our beloved Prince; and we invoke God's assistance to protect the honour of the nation and of the Monarch whom they have tried to dethrone. Nr. 9261. Bulgarien. 21. (?) Aug. 1886.

Stambouloff.

Nr. 9262. ITALIEN. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Berathungen der Vertreter der auswärtigen Mächte nach Bekanntwerden des Staatsstreiches, die an Major Grueff gerichteten Erklärungen und dessen Antwort darauf. [Gr. 2.]

Sofia, 21 agosto 1886.

Signor ministro, || I rappresentanti delle potenze estere in Sofia, subito dopo gli eventi da me narrati all'Eccellenza Vostra nel precedente rapporto di oggi, si riunirono, verso le ore 11 antimeridiane, presso l'agente ellenico signor Rangabè, decano del corpo diplomatico-consolare, per provvedere alla grave situazione e concertarsi sul da fare. || Tutti convennero che trattavasi Nr. 9262. Italien. 21. Aug. 1886.

*) Vom englischen Vertreter in Sophia seiner Regierung am 28. August mitgetheilt mit der Bemerkung, die Proclamation sei erlassen worden „immediately after the news was received of the conspiracy against Prince Alexander".

Nr. 9262. Italien. 21. Aug. 1886.

di un fatto, il pronunciamento, che difficilissimo sarebbe stato il prevedere, perchè concertato abilmente con grande segretezza fra ufficiali e truppe residenti fuori di Sofia, d'accordo con pochi ufficiali superiori di qui. Alcuni agenti riferirono come le loro dimore fossero state, nella notte, accerchiate dalle truppe, per cui dovettero rinunciare al progetto di recarsi presso Sua Altezza. Io stesso, che riuscii ad uscire di casa, e mi avviava verso il palazzo principesco, fui fermato per la strada da una sentinella, che, malgrado gli rivelassi la mia qualità, mi intimò di ritornare indietro, minacciando di far fuoco. || Nella riunione si combinò che si dovesse chiedere al maggiore Grouieff, il quale aveva assunto il comando dell'esercito bulgaro:

1° che venisse tolto il divieto di telegrafare, e si lasciasse passare la corrispondenza cifrata delle agenzie estere;

2° che si provvedesse alla sicurezza delle proprietà private di Sua Altezza. A tal proposito il signor von Saldern diceva sembrargli che il principe Alessandro, avendo firmata la sua abdicazione, cessava d'esser bulgaro, rimanendo cittadino germanico; per cui egli, come suo console, doveva tutelarne gl'interessi; inoltre, faceva egli osservare, non era decoroso e prudente che le carte, la corrispondenza intima del Principe, i valori, le decorazioni cadessero nelle mani dei faziosi; consigliava, perciò, che si sollecitasse dal maggior Grouieff la consegna di questi oggetti, sia a lui solo, sia ai rappresentanti delle grandi potenze, per poi farli rimettere a Sua Altezza.

Per questa duplice comunicazione si delegarono due segretari delle agenzie, uno russo ed uno austriaco. Ad essi il maggiore Grouieff rispose: in quanto alla prima, essergli impossibile dare ordine all'ufficio telegrafico di accettare la corrispondenza telegrafica, non esistendo ancora un governo provvisorio; per la seconda, essersi provveduto alla sicurezza dei beni privati del Principe coll'apposizione dei sigilli a tutte le camere del palazzo già abitato da Sua Altezza. || Come già dissi, fu solo alle 7 di sera che fu costituito il governo provvisorio; due ore dopo venne permesso agli agenti di telegrafare in cifra. || Gradisca, ecc.

E. Acton.

Nr. 9263. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. der ersten provisorischen Regierung in Sophia an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Sophia. — Anzeige der Abdankung des Fürsten und der Bildung der Regierung*). [B. 290; Gr. 3.]

(Circulaire.)

Sophia, le 10 (22) Août, 1886.

Nr. 9263. Bulgarien. 22. Aug. 1886.

M. le Gérant, || J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint la Proclamation annonçant au peuple Bulgare l'abdication de Son Altesse le Prince Alexandre de Battenberg, ainsi que la formation d'un Gouvernement Provisoire pour l'ad-

*) Der englische Vertreter in Sophia bemerkt bei Uebersendung dieser Note an seine Regierung: Receipt of this Circular was not acknowledged by any of the Agents.

ministration du pays jusqu'à la convocation de la Grande Assemblée Nationale. || En présence de ces circonstances extraordinaires et si importantes, le Gouvernement Provisoire dont je fais partie émet l'espoir que les Grandes Puissances voudront bien ne pas priver la Bulgarie de leurs dispositions bienveillantes, et je viens vous déclarer, M. le Gérant, que dans notre tâche nous saurons assurer le maintien de l'ordre dans le pays, et la marche régulière des affaires de façon à répondre à l'appui et à la confiance des Hautes Puissances, qui se sont si grandement intéressées à notre jeune État. || Pour ce qui me concerne, je me fais un devoir d'ajouter, M. le Gérant, que je mettrai tous mes efforts à faciliter la solution des affaires courantes qui pourraient se présenter entre vous et le Gouvernement Provisoire. || Veuillez, &c.

Ministre Ch. Stojanoff.

Nr. 9263. Bulgarien. 22 Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9264. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. — Nachricht von dem Staatsstreiche in Sophia. [B. 137.]

(Telegraphic.) Bucharest, August 22, 1886.

My Lord, || Last night, at a reception at the Palace, the King confirmed to me the news that had reached Bucharest in the afternoon of the 21st instant, to the effect that a *coup d'État* had taken place in Bulgaria, that the Prince had been seized and sent under escort, it was believed to Widdin, and that a Provisional Government had been formed, composed of the present Prime Minister, M. Karaveloff, and of M. Zankoff. || From the manner in which the news was sent to His Majesty it would appear, that communication with Sophia is interrupted; and I therefore report to your Lordship what I have heard || A Council of Ministers has been specially convoked, under the presidency of His Majesty, in order to consider the position of Roumania in the presence of this grave event. || I have, &c. Robt. J. Kennedy.

Nr. 9264. England. 22. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9265. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Pforte wird hinsichtlich der bulgarischen Ereignisse nur im Einvernehmen mit den Grossmächten handeln und keine Truppen nach Bulgarien oder Ostrumelien senden. [B. 141.]

(Telegraphic.) Therapia, August 22, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that Sir A. Sandison was this morning informed by Saïd Pasha that, in view of the events which have recently occurred in Bulgaria, the Porte intends to act entirely in concert with the Powers, to whom telegraphic communications have already been sent. || There is no intention of sending troops into either Bulgaria or Eastern

Nr. 9265. England. 22. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9265. England. 22. Aug. 1886. Roumelia. || The above has been communicated to Her Majesty's Acting Chargé d'Affaires at Sophia by telegraph. || I have, &c.

Edwd. Thorndown.

Nr. 9266. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. — Theilt weitere Nachrichten der rumänischen Regierung über den Aufstand in Sophia mit. [B. 142.]

(Extract.) Bucharest, August 22, 1886.

Nr. 9266. England. 22. Aug. 1886. In continuation of my preceding despatch, I have the honour to state that the latest news obtained by the Roumanian Government on the subject of the Bulgarian revolution is that, after a popular and military manifestation at Sophia in favour of Russia, the Prince was compelled to sign his abdication, after which His Highness was conducted under escort to the Danubian frontier. The Prince's steam yacht, which was lying at Rustchuk, has been dispatched to convey His Highness to a Roumanian port. || The Bulgarian authorities are making the most determined efforts to prevent the transmission of news by letter or by telegraph, and, I am told, have detained all the passengers travelling to-day by Orient express from Varna. || The British Vice-Consul at Rustchuk, in a telegram which had reached me through Giurgevo, states that a Russian Colonel has arrived from St. Petersburgh to act as Russian Commissioner in Bulgaria.

Nr. 9267. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Auswärt. — Kálnoky erklärt bei der aus den eingegangenen Nachrichten erkennbaren Theilnahmlosigkeit der Bulgaren betreffs des Schicksals des Fürsten vorläufig nichts für denselben thun zu können. [B. 154.]

Vienna, August 23, 1886.

Nr. 9267. England. 23. Aug. 1886. My Lord, || The news of the conspiracy against Prince Alexander and of his deposition reached Count Kálnoky when he was at his country seat in Moravia. He immediately returned to Vienna, arriving here last evening. || I had an interview with his Excellency this afternoon, when he spoke of the above events in terms of great indignation. || He said he had no direct information from Sophia or as to the present whereabouts of the Prince; but from news which had reached him from unofficial sources, he believed that His Highness was being conveyed to Turn-Severin. || His Excellency stated, that the reports which he had received from the Austrian Consuls at Giurgevo, Philippopoli, and Kalafat described the attitude of the population to be one of complete apathy, and stated that the troops had sworn fidelity to the new Government. || In view of

this general indifference, and of the conspiracy embracing men of all political parties, Count Kálnoky said he did not see what could be done in favour of the Prince. He must await further information before being able to form an opinion upon any course to be adopted. || His Excellency then told me he had just received communication of the Circular of to-day's date which the Turkish Government had addressed to its Agents abroad upon the above events, and he was obliged to say that the tone in which it spoke of them appeared to him to be characterized by extreme weakness. || I have &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 9267. England. 23. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9268. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Anfrage, ob er Aufklärungen über den Staatsstreich in Sophia geben könne*). [B. 145.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, August 23, 1886, 5 P.M.

Are you able to throw any light on the events which have occurred in Bulgaria?

Nr. 9268. England. 23. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9269. **TÜRKEI.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Die Pforte hat in Sophia erklärt, dass sie alle Urheber des Umsturzes für das Geschehene verantwortlich halte, und wird weiter nur im Einvernehmen mit den Grossmächten handeln. [B. 147; Gr. 4.]

(Telegraphique.) Constantinople, le 23 Août, 1886.

De graves événements viennent d'avoir lieu à Sophia. Dans la nuit du 20 au 21 de ce mois, la résidence du Prince Alexandre fut subitement cernée par des troupes révoltées, réunies aux élèves de l'École Militaire, et le Prince aurait été conduit sous escorte à la frontière, après qu'il eût donné sa démission par écrit. Immédiatement après, un nouveau Gouvernement fut formé, ayant à sa tête le Métropolitain Archimandrite de Sophia en qualité de Lieutenant-Princier, et la ville fut mise en état de siège. || Le Gouvernement Impérial ne pouvant rester indifférent en présence d'un événement aussi inattendu, et en vue de prévenir tout conflit entre les partis, je viens de télégraphier à son Commissaire en Bulgarie ce qui suit:—

Nr. 9269. Türkei. 23. Aug. 1886.

"Le Gouvernement Impérial, dans l'ignorance où il est du degré de légalité de l'acte qui a privé subitement le Prince Alexandre de sa dignité, regrette cet événement; et dans le cas où l'ordre viendrait à être troublé soit en Bulgarie, soit dans la Roumélie-Orientale, jusqu'au moment où il sera en mesure de décider de la situation après en avoir conféré avec les Puissances, tous ceux qui en auraient été les auteurs seront tenus responsables."

*) Am nämlichen Tage begehrt Lord Iddesleigh telegraphisch von dem englischen Vertreter in Bukarest, sichere Nachrichten einzuholen, wo Fürst Alexander sei. [B. 146.]

Nr. 9269. Türkei. 23. Aug. 1886.

En communiquant ce qui précède à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, vous voudrez bien faire sentir à son Excellence tout le prix que nous attachons, dans l'intérêt général, à ne point nous départir de la ligne de conduite que nous nous sommes tracée dès le début de la question Rouméliote, celle de décider et d'agir de concert avec les Grandes Puissances. || La même question venant à l'heure qu'il est d'entrer dans la phase nouvelle que j'ai énoncée ci-haut, c'est toujours avec le concours de ces mêmes Puissances que nous désirons faire rentrer l'état de choses actuel en Bulgarie dans une situation normale et conforme aux engagements internationaux. || Je vous prie de donner lecture et copie de la présente dépêche à son Excellence et de me transmettre sa réponse à cet égard.

Nr. 9270. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Sendet vom englischen Vertreter in Sophia eingegangene Nachrichten über die Lage in Sophia. [B. 158.]

(Telegraphic.) Constantinople, August 23, 1886.

Nr. 9270. England. 23. Aug. 1886.

Following further telegram received from Mr. Stephen, dated the 21st instant:—

"(Confidential.)

My telegram of to-day *en clair**) was sent to Servian Telegraph Office by special messenger. || Provisional Government, consisting of Metropolitan and some Opposition leaders, was formed this evening after repeated attempts. Up to that time no one seemed inclined to assume responsibility with which military ringleaders of revolt, in view of possible contingencies, tried to saddle civil authorities. || Late Prime Minister was pressed both by conspirators and Russian Agent to take part in movement, in hope of constitutionally justifying *coup d'État* thereby; but he refused. Nothing positive is yet known as to attitude in provinces; but War Minister has gone over, and it is probable, that the majority of troops will accept situation. Unless rescue is attempted no fears need be entertained as to safety of Prince. He is said to have been taken to a monastery 12 miles distant from city; journey to be continued under cover of night. No further disturbances at present. Owing to fears of Turkish and Servian invasion population is far from elated, and feelings of shame are visible in many quarters of Bulgaria. No news has been received from Philippopoli. || So far as outward appearances go, there would seem to be no preconcerted arrangement between three Empires. Disaffected officers

*) Dasselbe, ebenso wie das zweite vom 21. August datirt, enthielt die erste kurze Mittheilung über die Gefangennahme des Fürsten und die Demonstration der Zankovisten vor dem russischen Generalconsulat. [B. 157.]

would undoubtedly have failed to become masters of situation, if Sophia had not been almost denuded of troops to fortify positions in direction of Servian frontier." Nr. 9270. England. 23. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9271. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Hat die Verschwörer für das Leben des Fürsten verantwortlich gemacht; die Vertreter der andern Mächte wollen dagegen erst Instructionen erwarten. [B. 186.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 23*), 1886.

As I heard, that, owing to the fact that attitude of northern regiments was uncertain, Prince Alexander had been detained somewhere, and as I feared that His Highness might be exposed to indignities and danger unless some strong language was held, I insisted on seeing military leader of revolt, and told him that he was responsible for safety of Prince Alexander, as *coup d'État* had been a military one. I declined to discuss political side of question, but I demanded to know whereabouts of His Highness, and details of what had taken place, as British Representative accredited to Prince Alexander. || Major Grueff, who seemed frightened, then told me, that instructions to guard were that they should convey His Highness to Danubian frontier, choice of route being left to them. He told me further, that the latest news, received at 3 this morning, was that His Highness had passed through Orchanie which is 45 miles from Sophia, some time previously. I fancy, that the present intention is to take His Highness to Rakhova, on Danube. || I took above steps independently of my colleagues, who seem but little inclined to move in any way without having received instructions. I considered, that the proper treatment and safety of the Prince required immediate action. Nr. 9271. England. 23. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9272. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Theilt die von Russland auf die Anzeige der revolutionären Regierung von der Absetzung des Fürsten ertheilte Antwort mit. [B. 187.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 23**), 1886.

The Russian Agency have received from St. Petersburgh the following telegram in answer to that containing the announcement of Prince Alexander's deposition. It has been placarded in the town:— Nr. 9272. England. 23. Aug. 1886.

"As before, Russia will be actuated by heartfelt good-will for the Bulgarians. The Imperial Government has no thoughts of an occupation, and

*) Eingetroffen in London am 26. August.

**) Eingetroffen in London am 26. August.

Nr. 9272. England. 23. Aug. 1886. will ever give their support to those Bulgarians who strive to maintain order and quiet in the country, so that its future well-being may be secured."

Nr. 9273. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. der zweiten provisor. Regierung an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Sophia. — Anzeige der Bildung der Regierung und Gesuch um Anerkennung. [B. 289; Gr. 6.]

(Nach der Ausfertigung an den englischen Vertreter.)

(Circulaire.) Sophia, le 12 (24) Août, 1886.

Nr. 9273. Bulgarien. 24. Aug. 1886. M. le Gérant, || Par suite de la retraite du Major Grueff ainsi que de la démission du Gouvernement Provisoire, et en vue d'assurer la paix et la tranquillité dans le pays un Gouvernement s'est constitué sous la forme indiquée dans la Proclamation ci-jointe adressée aujourd'hui à la nation Bulgare. || En portant ce qui précède à votre connaissance au nom du Gouvernement établi dont j'ai l'honneur de faire partie, je viens vous prier instamment, M. le Gérant, de vouloir bien interposer vos bons offices auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique pour qu'il daigne reconnaître le Gouvernement qui s'est formé. || Nous avons le ferme espoir que les Grandes Puissances qui ont donné tant de preuves de leur bienveillance envers la Bulgarie, voudront bien nous accorder leur appui et leur confiance dans les circonstances difficiles que notre pays traverse. || Je me plais également à espérer que vous voudrez bien, M. le Gérant, m'accorder votre concours bienveillant dans l'accomplissement de la lourde tâche qui m'incombe. || Veuillez, etc.

C. Stoiloff.

Nr. 9274. BULGARIEN. — Proclamation der zweiten provisorischen Regierung in Sophia an das Volk. [B. 289; der zweite Theil, die eigentliche Proclamation, italienisch Gr. 6.]

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

Nr. 9274. Bulgarien. 24. Aug. 1886. "To the President of the Provisional Government, M. Karaveloff, || I have the honour to resign the command of the army. Major Grueff.

Sophia, August 12 (24), 1886."

It is announced herewith, that the Metropolitan Clement, President of the Provisional Government, D. Zankoff, Minister of the Interior, Th. Bourmow, Minister of Finance, and Ch. Stojanoff, Minister for Foreign Affairs, in view of the communication which has been made to them by the Commander-in-chief of the army of the necessity for retiring from their posts, have placed

their resignations in the hands of Major Grueff, who handed them, with his own, to the President of the Government, M. Karaveloff. || The other members of the Provisional Government, Major Nikiforoff and MM. Radoslavoff and Velitchvoff, never having taken office in that Government, their resignations have not been handed in. Nr. 9274. Bulgarien. 24. Aug. 1886.

To the Bulgarian People!

Brother Bulgarians! || In view of recent events which have taken place in our country, and have thrown it into a condition of dangerous uncertainty, to restore peace and guarantee the population from danger, as well as to withdraw the country from the untrodden path, into which it is being driven, and relying on the support and confidence of the nation, I have undertaken the administration of the country and formed a Government under my presidency, with the President of the National Assembly, M. Stambouloff, and Major Nikiforoff as members. || I also announce to the Bulgarian nation, that a Ministry has been formed of the following persons:—

Minister for Foreign Affairs	M. Stoiloff.
Minister of Interior	M. Radoslavoff.
Minister of Education	M. Ivantchoff.
Minister of Finance	M. Gueschoff.
Minister of Justice	M. Orashakoff.
Minister of War	Major Panoff.

This Ministry will at once take all the necessary measures for fully securing order and peace in the country. Karaveloff.

Sophia, August 12 (24), 1886.

Nr. 9275. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Bukarest an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Nachrichten aus Bulgarien sind verwirrt und widerspruchsvoll. [B. 161.]

(Telegraphic.) Bucharest, August 24, 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to my two preceeding despatches, I have the honour to state, that last night I received a telegram from the British Vice-Consul at Rustchuk, informing me that a telegram, which will be published, has been received from the Emperor of Russia expressing disapproval of the action of the Bulgarian revolutionists. || Mr. Dalziel adds, that the abdication of His Highness the Prince of Bulgaria has been openly proclaimed, and that the travellers in the Orient express train from Varna, who have been detained twenty-four hours in the Principality, have been allowed to continue their journey. || Communication with Sophia appears still to be interrupted, and the news which reaches the Roumanian Government is confused and contradictory; but I am to good authority that the Prince of Bulgaria has embarked at Rahova. || I have, &c. Robt. J. Kennedy. Nr. 9275. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9276. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — An den russischen Kaiser sind 2 Telegramme der Revolutionäre aus Sophia mit der Bitte um Inschutznahme gelangt, Antwort ist noch nicht ertheilt. [B. 163.]

St. Petersburgh, August 24, 1886.

Nr. 9276. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

My Lord, || In reply to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date on the subject of recent events in Bulgaria, I can, I fear, give you no very certain or detailed information. I learn, however, that two telegrams have been received by the Emperor, the first, on the evening of the 21st, from the Metropolitan, announcing the revolution, and appealing to His Majesty for protection; the second, yesterday, from the Provisional Government, to the effect that they wished for no more foreign Princes, but desired to form an autonomous State, under the direct protection of Russia. No answer has, I believe, been returned as yet to either communication. || The Ministry for Foreign Affairs had received, on the night of the 21st, a telegram from their Agent at Sophia, reporting the establishment of the Provisional Government and giving the names of its members, among whom M. Karaveloff was not mentioned. There is a rumour this morning of a counter-revolution; but, M. Vlangaly having been summoned out of town by the Emperor, I have not been enabled to verify it. || I had the honour to report the substance of the above by telegraph. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9277. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Meldet die Erhebung der Truppen in Bulgarien und Ostrumelien für den Fürsten. [B. 164.]

(Telegraphic.) Constantinople, August 24, 1886, 1·5 P.M.

Nr. 9277. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

The following telegram, dated yesterday, has just been received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Philippopoli. || "Commander-in-chief here hopes that Prince Alexander will be restored at once, all the troops eastward of Sophia having pronounced in his favour, probably rest likewise, but there are no independent means of ascertaining. Army marched on Sophia immediately, troops from Philippopoli taking the lead. Prince Alexander is in Roumania, and has been advised of these proceedings."

Nr. 9278. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Deutschland kann bei der Unsicherheit der Nachrichten noch keine Stellung zu den Vorgängen in Sophia nehmen; Russland will nicht interveniren. Zuverlässsige Nachrichten über den wahren Stand der Dinge fehlen. [B. 166.]

Berlin, August 24, 1886.

Nr. 9278. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

My Lord, || I had the honour this day to report to your Lordship, by telegraph, that Count Berchem informs me that, owing to the undefined nature of the present situation of Affairs in Bulgaria, it is not possible for the German Government to decide what attitude it will eventually take up. || Count Berchem does not believe, that there will be any official intervention on the part of Russia, and has been informed by the Russian Chargé d'Affaires here that Russia will allow the Bulgarians to settle their difficulties by themselves. A telegram has been received by M. de Radowitz reporting a rumour from Philippopoli, to the effect that a counter-revolution in favour of Prince Alexander has broken out at Sophia. || It is reported, also, that the garrison of Shumla is faithful to the Prince. Nothing is known as to the Prince's whereabouts, but a telegram from Roumania states that his yacht was seen going down the Danube, and it is possible that he may be endeavouring to land somewhere in his own territory. || Owing to the absence of M. Karaveloff's name from the Ministry, it would appear that there is no unanimity of parties in the revolt. Count Berchem informs me, that the German Government has as yet received no news from its own Agent at Sophia. || Nothing definite is at present known here as to the real state of affairs, in consequence of all intelligence as yet received coming only by permission of the insurgent party. || I have, &c. Edward B. Malet.

Nr. 9279. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Lord Iddesleigh lehnt es ab, einen von der Pforte von England besonders erbetenen Avis über die von ihr zu befolgende Politik zu geben. [B. 167.]

Foreign Office, August 24, 1886.

Nr. 9279. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

Sir, || The Turkish Ambassador called upon me to-day to ask whether I had any answer to make to his request for the advice of Her Majesty's Government as to the course to be pursued in South-Eastern Europe, which, as I informed your Excellency in my despatch of yesterday's date, he had made to me. || I said, that it was impossible to give advice unless we were more fully informed as to the real state of affairs. I added, that the form of the communication which his Excellency had made to me was that of a request

Nr. 9279. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

for advice from all the Great Powers, and that we could not give such advice without an exchange of views with them.

His Excellency said in reply, that the Porte had addressed a general request to all the Powers, but over and above that he was instructed to make a special appeal to England. || I said, that it would be difficult for us to give advice both separately and collectively; but there remained another consideration, viz., that England might give advice; but would Turkey follow it? I referred to the Conferences held last year at Constantinople, at which, by Lord Salisbury's instructions, Sir W. White had urged as a first step towards the settlement of the questions which had arisen, that an inquiry should be held as to the wishes of the Roumelian people. This advice the Porte had refused to take, and it was probable, I said, that, had it been followed, much of the present troubles might have been spared. || His Excellency then made some remarks, to the effect that the Porte had followed the advice of Her Majesty's Government in acquiescing in the abandonment of the ground of the Berlin Treaty on which Turkey might have taken her stand. He did not discuss the point I had raised as to the Turkish refusal to inquire into the wishes of the population, but he repeated that any advice which England might give would have great weight with the Porte. || I reiterated my objection to Her Majesty's Government either acting or giving advice alone in the present state of affairs. Things would probably soon develop themselves, and then we should see our way more clearly. Rustem Pasha said, that he must, he supposed, wait patiently for such development. || I inquired if he had any news from Bulgaria; but I could not learn that he had any other information than what we already possess. || I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9280. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über den Sturz der provisorischen revolutionären Regierung und über die Wiederaufnahme der Regierung durch Karaveloff. [B. 174.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 24, 1886, 10·40 P.M.

Nr. 9280. England. 24. Aug. 1886.

Military revolt against Prince Alexander has failed owing to threat of provincial regiments to march on Sophia. Provisional Government has resigned, and Major Grueff, the military leader of revolt, has made submission to M. Karaveloff, who resumes office to save honour of country and preserve order under following conditions: full power, military conspirators to be dismissed, and situation accepted by Russia, which is promised by Russian Agent and Consul-General. I am desired to report above, and express hope that Bulgaria will continue to receive England's support. || Prince Alexander said to be on Danube. I will send further report as soon as I have time.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

Nr. 9281. **BULGARIEN.** — Proclamation der provisorischen Regierung in Tirnowa an das Volk. [B. 275*).]

Proclamation to the People of Bulgaria.

(Translation.)

In the name of Alexander I, Prince of Bulgaria, and of the National Assembly, I declare to be outlaws the members of the Provisional Government, at the head of which is Clement, and any one who obeys the orders of that Government shall be tried and punished by military law. I appoint Lieutenant-Colonel Mutkuroff to be Commander-in-chief of all the Bulgarian forces, and I order all the authorities of the country, both civil and military, to submit without any attempt at opposition. I appeal to the heroic Bulgarian people for the defence of the throne and the country against the traitors who have tried to dethrone our heroic and well-beloved Prince. May God Almighty give us strength in order, that the nation may defend its honour, its rights, and the glory of our country and of our Prince, elected by itself. || Bulgaria for ever! || Longe live the Prince of Bulgaria, Alexander I. Nr. 9281. Bulgarien. 24. Aug. 1886.

Stambouloff, *President of the National Assembly.*
Mutkuroff, *Lieutenant-Colonel, Commander-in-chief of the Bulgarian Forces.*

Nr. 9282. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Die Pforte möge den Fürsten Alexander zur Rückkehr in sein Land auffordern. [B. 181.]

Foreign, Office, August 25, 1886.

Sir, || I requested your Excellency, by telegraph, to-day, to impress upon the Porte with great earnestness, that it would be politic on their part, now that Prince Alexander has recovered his freedom, to summon His Highness to return to the Principality and restore order there. || I am, &c. Nr. 9282. England. 25. Aug. 1886.

Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9283. **BULGARIEN.** — Vertreter in Bukarest an die Vertreter der Grossmächte daselbst. — Uebersendet denselben das Exposé des Chefs der bulgarischen Regentschaft Stambuloff über die jüngsten Ereignisse.

(Nach der Ausfertigung für den italienischen Gesandten [Gr. 9.])

Bukarest, 14 août 1886.

Monsieur le ministre, || J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre, à titre de renseignement, la copie du télégramme suivant qui m'a été adressé par Nr. 9283. Bulgarien. 14/26. Aug. 1886.

*) Nach der Bemerkung des Viceconsuls in Burgas, welcher das Aktenstück am 24. August dem Botschafter in Constantinopel übersandte, in Burgas an diesem Tage bekannt geworden.

Nr. 9283. Bulgarien. 26. Aug. 1886.

M. Stambouloff, président de l'assemblée nationale, et actuellement chef de la régence en Bulgarie. Voici ce télégramme:

"Monsieur l'agent, — Je vous prie de porter à la connaissance des grandes puissances, signataires du traité de Berlin, l'exposé suivant des évènements qui viennent d'affliger le peuple bulgare:

"Le 9/21 août courant, quelques conjurés, suivis par le régiment de Kustendil et les élèves de l'école militaire, profitant de la circonstance que la ville de Sophia avait été complètement dégarnie de troupes, se sont introduits, à deux heures du matin, dans le palais de Son Altesse et ont forcé, le revolver à la main, notre Auguste Souverain à les suivre au ministère de la guerre, d'où ils l'ont dirigé vers Rahova sur le Danube, le faisant voyager la nuit, afin que la population, qui adore son souverain, ne se révoltât et ne l'arrachât de leurs mains criminelles. A Rahova, Son Altesse a été embarquée sur son yacht et conduite directement sur Reni. || Sachant que leur attentat ne trouverait aucun écho dans le pays, et se sentant incapables d'entraîner par leur seule autorité la population dans la voie d'un mouvement révolutionnaire, les fauteurs de la révolte n'ont trouvé rien de mieux que d'inonder la Bulgarie de fausses nouvelles, afin d'induire la nation en erreur sur la nature de l'acte de trahison qu'ils venaient de commettre, et de faire croire au peuple que le détrônement du Prince avait été fait avec le concours de tous les partis politiques et constituait un acte méritoire accompli dans l'intérêt de la patrie. En même temps, ils expédièrent dans toutes les directions de nombreux télégrammes portant la signature de personnes influentes, tout à fait étrangères et même hostiles au coup de main du 9/21 août, engageant les patriotes bulgares à appuyer le prétendu gouvernement provisoire qui venait de se constituer. Ils ont, en outre, publié plusieurs listes ministérielles contenant les noms des chefs des différents partis politiques, en Bulgarie, qui avaient catégoriquement refusé leur concours à ces conspirateurs et qui même, pour cette raison, avaient été jetés en prison. || Toutes ces manoeuvres ne servirent cependant qu'à démontrer une fois de plus le profond amour du peuple bulgare pour son souverain-héros. A peine la nouvelle de cet attentat se fut-elle répandue, que, de tous les côtés, la population s'adressa au soussigné, président de l'assemblée nationale, me sommant de faire usage de l'autorité que la constitution m'accorde, afin de rétablir l'ordre légal dans le pays. L'armée, de son côté, s'empressa aussi à m'apporter son appui moral — l'appui matériel n'ayant pas été nécessaire, — en se déclarant fidèle à son digne chef et prête à soutenir les autorités légales de la nation.

"La protestation unanime du peuple entier contre le crime du 9/21 août, et le refus d'obéissance aux ordres des conspirateurs suffirent pour le rétablissement de l'ordre légal. Le ministère révolutionnaire disparut de la scène quarante-huit heures après sa constitution, et avant que l'on n'ait pu prendre des mesures contre lui. En ce moment la capitale bulgare est administrée par le commandant militaire que j'ai nommé au nom de Son Altesse le prince

Alexandre, tandis que le reste du pays n'avait jamais reconnu l'autorité de ce ministère. || En un mot, le peuple entier, ainsi que l'armée bulgare, se soulevèrent spontanément et unanimement pour chasser les quelques individus qui, mettant leurs intérêts privés et leur ambition plus haut que l'intérêt public, ne reculèrent pas devant la crainte de déshonorer l'armée bulgare et de pousser la patrie au bord de l'abîme, pour assoupir leurs passions, et eurent le triste courage de recourir au crime et à la trahison pour atteindre leurs buts égoistes. Nr. 9283. Bulgarien. 26. Aug. 1886.

"En transmettant aux cabinets des grandes puissances le récit succinct et fidèle des évènements qui ont affligé le coeur de tout Bulgare, je vous prie, monsieur l'agent, d'attirer leur attention sur la circonstance que la crise en question n'a duré que trois jours, que pendant tout ce temps l'ordre le plus parfait a régné dans tout le pays, et que, malgré l'horreur du crime et les passions qu'il ne pouvait pas manquer de soulever, pas une goutte de sang n'a été versée durant tout ce temps. || En ce moment trois millions de Bulgares demandent à hauts cris leur souverain bien-aimé; à leur désir de voir, par le retour du prince Alexandre, l'ordre légal de nouveau rétabli, se mêle l'intention d'effacer le plutôt possible l'affliction que l'infâme attentat du 9[21] août a peut-être produit sur l'âme de Son Altesse, en lui montrant les sentiments d'amour et de fidélité qui animent le peuple bulgare tout entier. — Tirnova, 12[24] août 1886. *Stambouloff.*"

Le gouvernement central bulgare se trouvant momentanément éloigné des représentants des grandes puissances en Bulgarie, il s'est adressé à son agence de Bukarest pour transmettre aux cabinets des dites puissances l'exposé des événements qui viennent de se passer en Bulgarie. Je vous prie, par conséquent, Excellence, de vouloir bien faire parvenir au cabinet de S. M. le Roi d'Italie la communication présente et d'agréer, etc.

G. D. Natchovitch.

Nr. 9284. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. — England wünscht, dass auch Italien die Pforte auffordere, den Fürsten Alexander zur Rückkehr einzuladen. [B. 200.]

Foreign Office, August 26, 1886.

Sir, || The Italian Chargé d'Affaires called on me to-day to inquire what news I had from Bulgaria. After describing to him the general situation, I said that her Majesty's Government thought that the most regular course of proceeding would be for the Porte to summon Prince Alexander to return to his Principality and restore order. || I went on to inform M. Catalani that Her Majesty's Government had advised the Porte to take that step. || He inquired wheter I wished him to communicate to Count Robilant the information Nr. 9284. England. 26. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9284. England. 26. Aug. 1886.

I had imparted to him. || I said, that I wished him to do so confidentially, and I added that I thought that if the Italian Government made a similar but independent representation at the Porte our hands would be strengthened. || M. Catalani asked what I thought would be the view of Russia as to such advice. || I replied, that I did not see what Russia could have to say. || M. Catalani will report my observations to Count Robilant. || I am, &c.

Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9285. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. — Graf Kálnoky tritt dem Gerüchte entgegen, dass die Vorgänge in Bulgarien Folgen der Gasteiner Zusammenkunft seien. [Gr. 7.]

Rome, 26 agosto, 1886.

Nr. 9285. Italien. 26. Aug. 1886.

Signor ambasciatore, || L'incaricato d'affari d'Austria-Ungheria mi ha fatto cenno di un telegramma pervenutogli dal conte Kalnoky circa i recenti casi di Bulgaria. || Dice Sua Excellenza, in quel telegramma, alludendo alle voci che si fanno correre, che quanto avvenne testè a Sofia non è conseguenza degli accordi presi a Gastein più di quel che siano stato effetto, lo scorso anno, del convegno di Kremsier gli avvenimenti della Rumelia orientale. || Gradisca, ecc.

C. Robilant.

Nr. 9286. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — Franassowitsch weiss, dass die Besorgnisse des Fürsten Alexander vor Serbien auf Täuschung durch die Verschworenen beruhten. [B. 231.]

(Extract.)

Belgrade, August 26, 1886.

Nr. 9286. England. 26. Aug. 1886.

With reference to Mr. Barrington's interesting despatch of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that I called this morning upon the Servian Minister for Foreign Affairs in order to pay him my respects on my return to my post, and to endeavour to gather from him further information as to events in Bulgaria. I found M. Franassovitch evidently very anxious as to the turn events might take in consequence of the deposition of Prince Alexander. His Excellency said, that he knew very little as to what was now taking place in Bulgaria, as Sophia appeared to be surrounded by an almost impenetrable barrier, and that the only information the Servian Government had was derived from the neighbourhood of the frontier near the Danube, and from occasional travellers from Sophia. In the course of conversation I expressed my surprise to his Excellency at Prince Alexander having

been apparently so ill-informed respecting military matters in Servia as to have given credence to the fabricated reports of Servian armaments to such an extent as to have denuded his capital of troops for the purpose of watching the frontier of this kingdom. M. Franassovitch said, that this, indeed, seemed extraordinary, but that he now knew how to account for it; that the Prince had sent a Staff Officer, in whom His Highness had confidence, to report upon military matters on the Bulgarian-Servian frontier, and that this officer had deceived his Sovereign by furnishing him with entirely false information, and that he (M. Franassovitch) believed that the Bulgarian Minister of War had likewise been an accomplice in the plot to deceive the Prince.

Nr. 9286. England. 26. Aug. 1886.

Nr. 9287. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Vorgänge nach dem Sturze des Fürsten, seine und des russischen Agenten Thätigkeit bei Neubildung der Regierung. [B. 289.]

(Extract.) Sophia, August 26, 1886.

I trust, that your Lordship has already received my immediately preceding despatch, which I forwarded by messenger on the 22nd instant, and which contains a full account of the events of the first two days of the revolt at Sophia.

Nr. 9287. England. 26. Aug. 1886.

The assurances which I had received from M. Stojanoff as to the personal safety and whereabouts of Prince Alexander seemed to me so unsatisfactory, and the unwillingness of my colleagues to move without instructions so great, that I determined on the morning of the 23rd instant to assume the responsibility of acting independently, and to address myself directly to the military leader of the revolt. After some firme language, Major Grueff consented to see me. I began by informing him, that I must decline to discuss any political questions with him, for I could in no way recognize the authority which he and his companions claimed, but I had come to warn him that, as military chief of the revolt, he would be held personally responsible for anything that might happen to Prince Alexander, and I demanded to know where His Highness was, as well as details of what had taken place.

Major Grueff seemed frightened and ill at ease, and his manner was the very reverse of that of a determined revolutionary leader, glorying in the success which he had achieved. He deprecated responsibility, and assured me that his prominent position was merely due to seniority and the force of circumstances. This argument I refused to admit, and pressed my point in strong terms, which, far from exciting any spirit of opposition in Major Grueff, elicited from him the required information, which I have since had reason to believe correct, that the Prince was conveyed on the morning of the 21st instant to a monastery about 20 kilom. from Sophia, and thence by night

Nr. 9287. England. 26. Aug. 1886.

towards the Danube frontier, stopping, it appears, at Orchanie and Wratza on the way. His further movements were shrouded in mystery, for considerable latitude had been left to the officers, Captains Zaffiroff and Kirdjieff, who accompanied His Highness, as to the route to be taken.

The difficulty of obtaining reliable information was greatly aggravated by the fact that the self-styled Provisional Government had at once taken possession of the telegraphes here, cutting of all communication between most of the foreign Representatives and their Governments, their hopes on the one side, and fears of a Turkish occupation of Roumelia on the other, causing them to make exceptions in favour of M. Bogdanoff and Gadban Effendi. They were at the same time guilty of reckless propagation of false intelligence and the unauthorized use of well-known Bulgarian names to encourage their provincial adherents and decide the waverers. But their weapons were not long in recoiling upon themselves. An immense revulsion of feeling soon took place in all classes when it was discovered by what base trickery the successful blow at Prince Alexander had been struck. From the very first M. Stambouloff, the President of the National Assembly, who fortunately happened to be at Tirnova, refused any friendly communication with the conspirators at Sophia, although telegraphed to in the name of the Prime Minister and of the Minister of War. With commendable promptitude he constituted a loyalist Administration at Tirnova, and issued an appeal to the fidelity of the nation, and orders to the provincial authorities and military commanders, which were almost universally responded to, and he was even preparing to march on Sophia with the loyal troops to crush the revolt. The popular enthusiasm for the Prince in Roumelia, as reported by Captain Jones, was also most marked, and the authorities there were co-operating with M. Stambouloff, while civil and military delegates were dispatched to seek the Prince, and offer their assistance to His Highness in recovering his throne.

The waning courage of the Sophia insurgents was not raised by the receipt at the Russian Agency of an answer to their appeal to the Czar, conceived in such mildly platonic terms of sympathy that one must wonder at their want of judgment in at once placarding it in the town.

The telegram runs as follows:—

"Russia will, as before, be actuated by feelings of heartfelt good-will for the Bulgarians. As to an occupation, the Imperial Government do not think of it, and their support will always be given to those of the Bulgarians who will use their efforts for the maintenance in the country of order and quiet, so as to secure its future wellbeing."

The Zankoffists now saw their hopes of active support dashed to the ground, and with the respect for their personal safety which has characterized all their doings, sought again the obscurity from which they had emerged so short a time before, and with such disastrous results.

The Metropolitan Clement, who had, I hear, been the recipient of a for-

cibly expressed telegram from M. Stambouloff, also retired from the scene, and I may here record my conviction that his presidency of the Provisional Government had proved a source of decided weakness rather than strenght, owing to the dislike entertained by the Bulgarians for the interference to the Church in temporal matters. The military ringleaders made fresh despairing appeals to M. Karaveloff to undertake the responsibilities of the situation, but without success.

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In the meantime, the loyalist leaders and their advisers had not been idle, and feeling that they would have the support of the nation, had taken counsel as to the best course of action to pursue so as to save the honour of the country, and restore the legal from of government with as little bloodshed and tumult as possible. Their hands were strengthened in the course of the day by the arrival of the Commandant-General of Artillery, Major Panoff, an officer of tact and energy, who succeeded in frightening the revolted officers into allowing him command of the telegraph line to Tirnova, whereby he was enabled to arrange concerted action with M. Stambouloff. He also insisted on and obtained the release of Major Popoff, the Commander of the 1st or Prince's Own Infantry Regiment, who had been made prisoner at Sophia, but resolutely refused to swear allegiance to the Provisional Government. The two battalions of this regiment which had been at Slivnitza were marching on Sophia, and demanded Major Popoff's release, as they refused to believe the false reports which had been sent them to the effect that he had joined the revolt. The cadets of the Military School, who had been seduced by the trickery and persuasion of Major Grueff, had repented of their action, and refused to take the oath of allegiance. They had now barricaded themselves in one of the shool buildings, and were preparing to resist any attempt at coercion.

The situation at nightfall was undoubtedly very grave, although I felt hopeful of the ultimate success of the loyalist party. The prospect, however, of this success being accomplished without bloodshed seemed small, as it was feared that Major Popoff would attack the disaffected troops, who spent the night under arms, and in a position of defence. Small bodies of troops and patrols were on the move all night long; but the civil population were calm, and the streets almost deserted.

By early morning the collapse of the revolt had become complete. The Russian Acting Agent had also become convinced of its failure, and had apparently decided to act as an intermediary in bringing about the submission of the conspirators. I had gone out at about 7 A.M., and met Gadban Effendi in the street, with whom I walked in the direction of the house of M. Tsanow, the late Minister for Foreign Affairs. We saw MM. Bogdanoff, Karaveloff and Tsanow, with Major Grueff and Captain Bendereff, leave the house, and it shortly transpired that Major Grueff had placed the resignation of himself and colleagues in M. Karaveloff's hands, and that the latter had undertaken

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to form a Government upon his own terms. These were, that he should have full powers, that the military chiefs of the revolt should be dismissed, and that Russia should accept the situation, in which M. Bogdanoff acquiesced.

At a meeting of the Representatives of the Great Powers which took place at 11 A.M., M. Bogdanoff said, that he had taken this initiative in order to prevent disturbances and the effusion of blood. I believe sincerely, that M. Bogdanoff, whose outward attitude during the time he has represented Russia here has been more moderate than that of his predecessors, wished to avoid any useless sacrifice of life. The further proceedings at the meeting were limited to a general expression of approval of M. Karaveloff's assuming power with a view of restoring order.

From an early hour that morning the streets had been shronged, and it was curious to note their changed aspect, joy and satisfaction having taken the place of ill-concealed shame and dejection. The mingled Russian and Bulgarian flags on the public buildings were removed, and wherever well-known loyalist officers who had regained their liberty were perceived, cheers were raised. On Major Nikiforoff deprecating any demonstration for the present before the War Ministry, a voice from the crowd proclaimed, "The people is *here*, and *not* on its knees!" — an allusion to Saturday's scene in front of the Russian Agency which seemed to meet the approval of the crowd.

At a little after midday Major Popoff, with a detachment of the 1st Regiment, by a well-executed *coup de main*, made himself master of all the military posts of the town, beginning with the Palace, where he called upon the outgoing guard of the disaffected 2nd Regiment for cheers for the Prince, which they at once gave. He was then proceeding to arrest all the military leaders of the revolt, but was prevented by the more cautious counsels of the civil authorities, who were perhaps over-anxious to avoid any chance of collision. It may here be mentioned that, had the energetic measures taken by Major Popoff not been interfered with, it would have been easy at this moment of panic to secure all the ringleaders and seize the guns, of which there are six batteries at Sophia, but unfortunately this opportunity was allowed to slip by — a fact to which may, in a great measure, be due the temporizing policy that the Sophia Government have since found themselves obliged to assume until a larger force of loyal troops reaches the capital.

Major Grueff had already constituted himself a prisoner, while Captain Bendereff and some of his companions escaped into hiding, and Colonel Kessiakoff took refuge at the Russian Agency. No action was taken against the civil members of the defunct Provisional Government.

The officers of the disaffected troops, who had at first made their submission on the disappearance of the real leaders of the revolt, subsequently took fright, and marching their men and artillery out of the town, took up their position in order of battle in the plain, declaring that they preferred to die fighting rather than be executed like dogs. On a conciliatory message

being brought to them by Major Panoff they returned to barracks, but again took fright and marched out in the night, and their present attitude appears to be that of despairing evil-doers, whom it is thought wiser not to drive into open resistance until the arrival of an imposing force convinces them of the folly of holding out.

At 9·30 A.M. I had received a visit from M. Stoiloff, a prominent Conservative ex-Minister, who long acted as Prince Alexander's Political Secretary, and who informed me officially, that a Government had been formed of the following composition:—

Council of Regency: MM. Karaveloff, Stambouloff and Major Nikiforoff.
Minister of the Interior: M. Radoslavoff.
Minister of Foreign Affairs: M. Stoiloff.
Minister of Finance: M. Gueschoff.
Minister of Justice: M. Orashakoff.
Minister of War: Major Panoff.
Minister of Education: M. Ivantcheff.

This, it may be remarked, is a coalition Ministry, taken from all parties except the Zankoffists, and is of a thoroughly representative nature. M. Stoiloff, in assuming office, addressed a Circular to the Representatives of the Powers, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, in which your Lordship will observe that, while the recognition and support of the Powers is asked for, no allusion is made to Prince Alexander, nor to the treachery whereby he had been removed.

I have also the honour to inclose a translation of a Proclamation which was published a little later, and which is equally guarded on those points.

As I had reason to fear, that the Russian Agent had only consented to the formation of this Government on the condition that Prince Alexander should not return to Bulgaria, I thought it would be well to make it clear from the beginning whose Government it was. I may here mention, that, for the reasons already given, I thought it well to show M. Karaveloff the draft of my telegram of the 24th instant, announcing the collapse of the conspiracy and his return to office, with a view to there being no doubt as to the conditions on which he appealed for the support of Europe. As M. Karaveloff had approved the wording, I called on him and informed him that I had transmitted his request for the recognition and support of Her Majesty's Government in the belief that he had acted constitutionally and was resuming office as a Minister of the Prince's Government. Gadban Effendi, who happened to be with M. Karaveloff at the moment of my visit, used similar language, and, although M. Karaveloff was unwilling to commit himself at once to a bold course, I had the satisfaction of formally extracting from him, in the Turkish Representative's presence, a solemn engagement to act in Prince Alexander's name as soon as the immediate difficulties of his position had been overcome. He explained, that the position at Sophia was still very

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critical between the revolted troops on the one side and the Russian Agency on the other, and that he must advance slowly and cautiously until the balance of strength was more clearly on his side; and, in view of his explanation and engagement, I thought it better to refrain from hampering him in affairs of detail when he had once satisfactorily declared the broad lines of his policy.

M. Stambouloff, whose spirited action has been taken throughout in the Prince's name, mistrusts M. Karaveloff, and maintains that, pending His Highness' instructions, to him, as President of the National Assembly, devolves the leadership of the Government of the country. No clear understanding has yet been arrived at between them.

The position, therefore, is at present as follows: With the exception of the Sophia district, the whole of Bulgaria and Roumelia remain enthusiastically loyal to Prince Alexander under M. Stambouloff's leadership. At Sophia, M. Karaveloff, backed by the majority of the civil population and some troops, has command of the Executive, and is following a cautious and temporizing policy towards the mutinous minority, until he is further reinforced, being convinced that any measures calculated to drive them to strike a last blow with the halter round their necks would be fraught with danger to the independent existence of Bulgaria. But the army generally has been placed by M. Stambouloff's Proclamation under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Mutkuroff, and is anxious to prove its loyalty, so that some unnecessary military demonstration is apprehended by M. Karaveloff, whose aversion to anything in the nature of military dictatorship is very marked.

Nr. 9288. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Weder die Pforte noch Russland werden Truppen nach Bulgarien senden; die Pforte betrachtet die Rückkehr des Fürsten als nicht wünschenswerth. [B. 210.]

Therapia, August 27, 1886.

Nr. 9288. England. 27. Aug. 1886.

My Lord, I have the honour to report, that the Sublime Porte has been induced by the Russian Ambassador to promise not to send troops into Eastern Roumelia or Bulgaria. At the same time his Excellency stated that Russia would also refrain from doing so, unless compelled by the force of circumstances, such as civil war breaking out in the country. || In a recent conversation one of my colleagues was informed at the Sublime Porte, that they would consider the return to Bulgaria of Prince Alexander as a great calamity, as such a step would inevitably, in their opinion, lead to complications with Russia*). || I have, &c. Edwd. Thornton.

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*) Tags zuvor hatte der Grossvezier auf die dringende Ermahnung des englischen Botschafters, die Rückkehr des Fürsten Alexander nach Bulgarien zu veranlassen, ge-

Nr. 9289. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Die russische Regierung giebt vor, über den Aufenthalt des Fürsten nichts zu wissen; die neue bulgarische wird ihn nicht zurückrufen. [B. 211.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, August 27, 1886, 11·10 P.M.

Nr. 9289. England. 27. Aug. 1886.

I made endeavours to-day to ascertain where Prince Alexander actually was from M. Vlangaly. His Excellency declared he did not know. His Highness, he said, had left Reni by rail, not for the Roumanian frontier, but for that of Austria. It is difficult to understand how Russian Government is without news, as this implies a long route through Russian territory. || I asked whether, according to his accounts from Sophia, new Provisional Government meant recall of Prince. || M. Vlangaly said, that Provisional Government did not mean to do so, and that M. Karaveloff would never bring about restoration of Prince Alexander, or part with the power he had got into his own hands.

Nr. 9290. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. — Graf Robilant will mit einer Meinungsäusserung zurückhalten bis das Ergebniss der Zusammenkunft Giers' und Bismarck's sich zeigen wird; Iddesleigh wünscht für Bulgarien die Unterstützung durch die Mächte. [B. 221.]

Foreign Office, August 28, 1886.

Nr. 9290. England. 28. Aug. 1886.

Sir, || In an interview which I had with M. Catalani to-day, he informed me, that Count Robilant understood and shared my wish to see peace restored to Bulgaria as soon as possible. || He said, that his Excellency was at present not in possession of complete or reliable information as to the events which were taking place in the Principality, and was therefore unable to give a definite opinion with regard to them, but that Count Robilant considered it advisable to await the result of the interview between M. de Giers and Prince Bismarck. || If they arrived at an agreement, it would without doubt result in some proposal, and the present complication would only be increased if numerous suggestions were put forward at a time when it was desirable, in the interests of peace, that a prompt and unanimous understanding should be arrived at. || I replied that, since our last conversation on the subject, which your Excellency will find recorded in my despatch of the 26th instant, the circumstances of the case had been altered by the return of Prince Alexander.

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antwortet „that the whereabouts of Prince Alexander was not precisely known, and that at the present moment it was impossible to reach him; he was sure, however, that the Prince would return of his own accord to Bulgaria should he be able to do so with safety. [B. 203.]

Nr. 9290. England. 8. Aug. 1886.

Even as a matter of mere good feeling, however, after a State had received so severe a shock as Bulgaria, it must be the desire of all the Powers to assist in smoothing away any difficulties which might interfere with her recovery. || In the course of our conversation, M. Catalani mentioned that he had received a telegram from his Government announcing the departure of Prince Dolgorouki to report on the state of affairs in Bulgaria. || I am, &c.

Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9291. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Sendung des Fürsten Dolgoruki. [B. 223.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, August 28, 1886, 8·45 P.M.

Nr. 9291. England. 28. Aug. 1886.

In reply to your telegram of yesterday*), Prince Dolgorouki is going to Sophia, and will have authority to speak in the name of the Emperor. He is to advise the Government—though I cannot tell which Government—to maintain peace and order, and he is to assume general direction of Russian Agencies in the two provinces.

Nr. 9292. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Meldet die Bildung einer neuen provisorischen Regierung durch Stambuloff. [B. 224.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, August 28, 1886, 8·30 P.M.

Nr. 9292. England. 28. Aug. 1886.

M. Stambouloff has failed to come to an agreement with M. Karaveloff, and has issued a second Prolamation, which is drawn up in spirited terms, and which invites the Prince to return. M. Stambouloff has, further, formed a Government under presidency of M. Radoslavoff. At the same time, return of His Highness is reported as imminent. M. Karaveloff, whom I have just seen, intends, together with his colleagues, to resign at once and to throw entire responsibility on newly-formed Government.

(Sent to Bucharest and Constantinople.)

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*) Earl Iddesleigh hatte darin Morier ersucht, sich zu versichern, ob die Nachricht von der Sendung Dolgorukis richtig sei: „and if so, in what capacity Prince Dolgorouki is sent to Bulgaria. [B. 205.]

Nr. 9293. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Bismarck erklärt, dass Deutschland im Orient nur ein Interesse an der Erhaltung des Friedens habe; Karaveloff hat sich gegen die Rückkehr des Fürsten ausgesprochen. [B. 232.]

(Extract.) Berlin, August 28, 1886.

Nr. 9293. England. 28. Aug. 1886.

Prince Bismarck returned to Berlin during the night. I have since seen Count Berchem, who tells me, that the Prince continues to hold the language regarding the policy of the German Government which I have before indicated: that Germany is not primarily interested in the events passing in Bulgaria, that its efforts will be reserved for the preservation of peace, which does not appear to be in danger at present*). || Count Berchem told me, that he does not anticipate active interference on the part of Russia. || He said, that he had no news regarding the Prince beyond what had appeared in the newspapers concerning his reception at Lemberg. || In speaking of his ignorance as to whether Prince Alexander would return to Bulgaria, he informed me, that M. Karaveloff had said to the German Agent that he would remain faithful to the Prince, but that it would be better for His Highness and for Bulgaria if he did not come back.

Nr. 9294. **ITALIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Instruction. [Gr. 10.]

(Telegramma.) Roma, 28 agosto 1886, 10 pom.

Nr. 9294. Italien. 28. Aug. 1886.

Desidero che la Signoria Vostra prosegua tosto per Sofia. || Ella vi terrà un atteggiamento di estrema riserva. || Per l'Italia, fin tanto che il concerto delle Potenze non abbia preso nuove deliberazioni definitive, il principe Allessandro è sempre principe di Bulgaria e governatore generale di Rumelia. La Signoria Vostra non dovrà adunque fino a nuovo ordine, impegnarsi in alcuna relazione officiale con qualsiasi governo che, senza la presenza del Principe, si istituisse a Sofia. Ella si limiterà a rapporti officiosi, atti a garantire gli interessi dei nostri nazionali. || Per quanto concerne il linguaggio da tenersi, la Signoria Vostra, senza dissimulare le simpatie che la splendida bravura del Principe e le sue alte qualità gli hanno procacciato in Italia, vorrà far comprendere che, facendo i migliori voti perchè il popolo bulgaro si renda sempre più degno della indipendenza assicuratagli dal congresso di Berlino, noi desideriamo che l'ordine sia, al più presto, ristabilito nel principato, e

*) „La Germania sta con molta calma osservando gli avvenimenti che si svolgono nel principato, e che, per il momento, non toccano la sfera dei suoi interessi." Dies war der Wortlaut einer Depesche Bismarcks an den Botschafter in Rom, wie ihn Graf Robilant am 26. August seinem Botschafter in Berlin mittheilte. [Gr. 8.]

Nr. 9294. Italien. 28. Aug. 1886.

sopratutto, che i recenti avvenimenti, non mai abbastanza deplorati, non abbiano come conseguenza più gravi preoccupazioni per l'Europa. || È essenzialmente da questo punto di vista che noi intendiamo considerare, con la più grande imparzialità, le risoluzioni da prendersi, da parte nostra, nel concerto delle potenze sopra le proposizioni che fossero per essere messe innanzi dai gabinetti aventi evidentemente interessi più diretti, in nostro confronto, rispetto all'avvenire di quella zona della penisola balcanica. || Faccio per ciò assegnamento sul tatto di Lei e sulla Sua esperienza. Voglia tenermi informato dei fatti e comunicarmi i suoi giudizii. C. Robilant.

Nr. 9295. BULGARIEN. — Proclamation des Fürsten Alexander bei seiner Rückkehr. [Nach der französischen Uebersetzung im „Étoile Roumaine" vom 19./31. August abgedruckt B. 241; italienische Uebersetzung Gr. 12; englische B. 375.]

Nr. 9295. Bulgarien. 29. Aug. 1886.

Nous, Alexandre Ier, par la grâce de Dieu et la volonté du peuple, Prince de Bulgarie: || Annonçons à notre très cher peuple Bulgare que nous sommes rentré aujourd'hui en Bulgarie et que nous avons repris les rênes du Gouvernement. || Nous donnons entière approbation à toutes les mesures qui ont été prises en notre absence par le Comité de Régence composé de MM. Stambouloff, Slaveicoff et Stranski; confirmons le Ministère constitué, sanctionnons la nomination de M. le Colonel Moutkouroff au poste de Commandant suprême des armées, et exprimons notre profonde reconnaissance au peuple et à l'armée qui, dans les circonstances qui se sont produites, ont su défendre l'honneur, l'indépendance et le nom glorieux de la Bulgarie en restant fidèles au trône. || Nous prions Dieu de bénir notre chère patrie, à la grandeur et à la gloire de laquelle nous ne cesserons jamais de donner tous nos efforts. || Donné à Roustchouk, le 17 (29) Août, 1886. Alexandre.

Nr. 9296. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Instruction. [Gr. 13.]

(Telegramma.) Roma, 30 agosto 1886, ore 1 pom.

Nr. 9296. Italien. 30. Aug. 1886.

Voglia comportarsi verso il Principe e verso il suo governo come se nulla fosse avvenuto dal 20 agosto in poi. || Il conte de Sonnaz, partito da Vienna, sta per far ritorno al suo posto. Robilant.

Nr. 9297. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Earl Iddesleigh hat die Pforte auf den Vortheil freundlicher Politik gegen Bulgarien hingewiesen und billigt die Rückkehr des Fürsten Alexander. [B. 237.]

(Extract.) Foreign Office, August 30, 1886.

Nr. 9297. England. 30. Aug. 1886.

The Turkish Ambassador called upon me to-day, and said that he had been instructed by the Grand Vizier to ask me what view Her Majesty's Government took of the present situation in Bulgaria. || I told him, that we considered the Prince's position to be a simple one. He had been abducted by force, but had returned, and, as I understood, had reported to the Porte his resumption of the reins of Government. His position, I said, seemed to me in no way changed from that which he had occupied before the recent revolution. || I then went on to say, that I thought this a critical moment for Turkey. If she decided upon adopting a friendly policy with regard to Bulgaria she would find in her a great support; but if, on the other hand, she abetted intrigues against Bulgaria, she would find in her instead of a support a danger. || Rustem Pasha again asked me whether the return of Prince Alexander met with the approval of Her Majesty's Government, and whether he might so inform Saïd Pasha. || To this I replied, that he might certainly do so, and his Excellency having thanked me withdrew.

Nr. 9298. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. — Bismarck ist mit der Frage, welche Strafen gegen die Verschwörer werden verhängt werden, beschäftigt und wird nicht die Initiative in der bulgarischen Frage ergreifen. [B. 238.]

Foreign Office, August 30, 1886.

Nr. 9298. England. 30. Aug. 1886.

Sir, || The German Ambassador called upon me to-day and discussed with me the situation in Bulgaria. He asked what the position of M. Karaveloff was, and what punishment would be meted out to the leaders of the conspiracy against Prince Alexander. || Upon these points I was unable to give his Excellency any information. || Count Hatzfeldt then inquired whether Her Majesty's Government had advised Prince Alexander to return to Bulgaria. || I replied, that we had no direct communication with His Highness, but that he was not doubt aware of the opinion which we had freely expressed in favour of such a step. || His Excellency stated, in reply to a question from me, that he did not think Prince Bismarck was disposed to take any initiative in the matter, but that all he desired was the preservation of peace.

Nr. 9299. **BULGARIEN.** — Fürst Alexander an den Zaren. — Erklärt sich bereit, seine Krone in die Hände des Zaren zurückzulegen*). [B. 282.]

Nr. 9299. Bulgarien. 30. Aug. 1886.

Sire, ayant repris en mains le Gouvernement de mon pays, j'ose soumettre à votre Majesté Impériale mes plus respectueux remercîments de ce que le Représentant de votre Majesté Impériale à Roustchouk, par sa présence officielle à ma réception, à montré au peuple Bulgare que la Gouvernement Impérial ne saurait approuver l'acte révolutionnaire dirigé contre ma personne. || En même temps, je sollicite la permission de pouvoir soumettre à votre Majesté Impériale toute ma gratitude pour l'envoi du Général Prince Dolgoroukow, Envoyé Extraordinaire de votre Majesté Impériale; car en reprenant le pouvoir légal en mains, mon premier acte est de soumettre à votre Majesté Impériale ma ferme intention de porter chaque sacrifice, afin de pouvoir aider à la magnanime intention de votre Majesté Impériale de faire sortir la Bulgarie de la grave crise qu'elle traverse. || Je prie votre Majesté Impériale d'autoriser le Prince Dolgoroukow de s'entendre directement et le plus vite possible avec moi, et je serai heureux de pouvoir donner à votre Majesté Impériale la preuve définitive du dévouement inaltérable envers votre auguste personne. Le principe monarchique m'a forcé de rétablir la légalité en Bulgarie et Roumélie. La Russie m'ayant donné ma Couronne—c'est entre les mains de son Souverain que je suis prêt à la remettre.

Alexandre."

Nr. 9300. **RUSSLAND.** — Zar Alexander an den Fürsten Alexander von Bulgarien. — Missbilligt dessen Rückkehr und erklärt sich jeder Einmischung in die bulgarischen Dinge enthalten zu wollen, so lange der Fürst da bleibe. [B. 282.]

Son Altesse le Prince de Bulgarie, Philippopoli.

Nr. 9300. Russland. 31. Aug. 1886.

Ai reçu télégramme de votre Altesse. Ne puis approuver votre retour en Bulgarie, prévoyant conséquences sinistres pour le pays déjà si éprouvé. La mission du Prince Dolgoroukow devient inopportune. Je m'abstiendrai de toute immixtion dans le triste état de choses auquel la Bulgarie a été réduite, tant que vous y resterez. Votre Altesse appréciera ce qu'elle a à faire. Je me réserve de juger ce que me commandent la mémoire vénérée de mon père, les intérêts de la Russie et la paix de l'Orient. Alexandre.

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*) Das Telegramm wurde durch den russischen Consul in Rustschuk, dem es der Fürst persönlich übergeben hatte, dem Zaren zugesandt.

Nr. 9301. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — König Milan hat den Fürsten zu seiner Rückkehr beglückwünscht, dieser mit dem Wunsche nach Herstellung der diplomatischen Beziehungen geantwortet. [B. 244.]

(Telegraphic.) Belgrade, August 31, 1886, 2 P.M.

Nr. 9301. England. 31. Aug. 1886.

A Telegram of warm greeting has been sent by King Milan to Prince Alexander at Rustchuk. His Highness expressed gratitude for the message in his answer from Sistova, and the hope that a Diplomatic Agent, who would convey his friendly sentiments, would be received by His Majesty, and that way might be thus paved for renewal of relations.

Nr. 9302. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — König Milan geht auf den Vorschlag des Fürsten Alexander bereitwillig ein*). [B. 257.]

(Extract.) Belgrade, September 1, 1886.

Nr. 9302. England. 1. Sept. 1886.

I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that Sir Frank Lascelles reached this last night, and that the King graciously permitted me to present him to him this morning. His Majesty read to us his telegram to Prince Alexander, as also His Highness' answer, to which I referred in my telegram of yesterday's date, observing that one of the objects he had in telegraphing to His Highness was to prove to him that he might feel perfectly safe against any hostile attack from a Servian force. The King added, that he had replied to Prince Alexander's message by assuring him that he would be most happy to receive the person to whom His Highness should confide the mission to pave the way for the renewal of friendly relations, which he explained to us would turn upon the settlement of the Bregova difficulty, and on his receiving an assurance that the railways would be completed. || Sir Frank Lascelles continued his journey this afternoon for Sophia.

Nr. 9303. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über Vorgänge in Sophia. [B. 262.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, September 1, 1886.

Nr. 9303. England. 1. Sept. 1886.

Count Eugene Zichy arrived here to congratulate Prince Alexander, accompanied by a number of Hungarian Magnates; Count Zichy is likewise the

*) Earl Iddesleigh beauftragt hierauf Wyndham am 2. September, dem Könige Englands grosse Befriedigung über seine Gesinnung gegen den Fürsten auszusprechen, und schliesst: The highest importance is attached by Her Majesty's Government to cordial relations between Bulgaria and Servia being maintained and developed. [B. 266.]

Nr. 9303. England. 1. Sept. 1886. bearer of congratulations from King Milan. || Prime Minister and Minister of War arrived this evening at Sophia. || A Second Secretary from the Russian Embassy at Constantinople will shortly replace the Russian Agent here, and Prince Dolgorouki's mission appears to be postponed. || Disaffected troops have been partly disbanded, and remainder is said to be ready to lay down their arms if amnestied. Severe measures here have been greatly relaxed, and town is quiet.

Nr. 9304. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Berlin und Wien. — Schlägt die freie und offene Unterstützung des Fürsten Alexander durch die Grossmächte vor. [B. 267.]

Foreign Office, September 2, 1886.

Nr. 9304. England. 2. Sept. 1886. Sir, || Her Majesty's Government are of opinion, that a point has been reached in the affairs of Bulgaria at which it is of importance that the Great Powers should consult as to the course that should be followed for the purpose of securing order and good government in that country, and of preserving the peace of Europe from the dangers to which it might be exposed in the event of disturbances arising. || It is possible, that if time be lost other Powers may take the initiative in a sense unfavourable to what Her Majesty's Government consider to be the real interests of Europe, or some untoward event may occur which may produce confusion. || A frank and open support of Prince Alexander will, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be the means best calculated to attain the above-mentioned objects, and it would be advisable that that support should be given to His Highness in such a manner as will enable him to devote himself without anxiety to the task of governing the country over which he has been placed by Europe. || Her Majesty's Government desire to interchange with the other Powers a frank expression of views; but they wish, as a preliminary measure before taking any steps for that purpose, to make a communication on the subject to the German and Austrian Governments. || I have therefore to request you to speak to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the above sense, and to acquaint me with the result of the communication which you will make to him. || I am, &c.

Iddesleich.

Nr. 9305. ENGLAND. — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexander ist sehr entmuthigt; ein Attentat ist gegen ihn versucht worden. [B. 268.]

(Telegraphic.) Philippopoli, September 2, 1886, noon.

Nr. 9305. England. 2. Sept. 1886. Prince Alexander, whom I have just seen, will be in Sophia to-morrow morning. || The situation appears to His Highness so difficult and involved

that he will not give any assurance of his future line of action. || His Highness feels assured of the fidelity of his poeple; but he knows, that threefourths of army were compromised in late plot; His Highness also is convinced of complicity of many of those persons whom Mr. Stephen believes to be innocent. || An open telegram has reached Prince Alexander from the Czar in which His Imperial Majesty expressed his strong disapprobation of Prince Alexander's return to Bulgaria, which would only prolong agitation and disorder in the country. || An attempt was made to upset train conveying the Prince last night. Nr. 9305. England. 2. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9306. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. — Freycinet hat bisher eine ausschliesslich abwartende Haltung beobachtet. [B. 276.]

Paris, September 2, 1886.

My Lord, || When I saw M. de Freycinet yesterday, he said he had made no communication to the Porte on the subject of late events in Bulgaria, and, so far indeed as I have been able to learn, the French Government appears to have been maintaining an observant attitude only. || I have, &c.

Edwin H. Egerton.

Nr. 9306. England. 2. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9307. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Bismarck lehnt die Unterstützung des Fürsten Alexander ab. [B. 272.]

(Extract.) Berlin, September 3, 1886.

I have the honour to report, that on the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, expressing the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the best means to be adopted for the purpose of securing order and good government in Bulgaria, I communicated its substance to Count Bismarck, by whom it was shown to the Chancellor. || Count Bismarck informs me this afternoon, that the Chancellor, while taking note of the courtesy shown by your Lordship in making this preliminary communication to him, cannot advise your Lordship to proceed in attempting to obtain the frank and open support of the Prince of Bulgaria on the part of the Great Powers, feeling, as he does, certain that such an attempt would not succeed. || Prince Bismarck is of opinion, that, though Prince Alexander was placed upon the throne of Bulgaria by the Great Powers, it is not incumbent upon them, either conjointly or separately, to maintain him there.

Nr. 9307. England. 3. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9308. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Kalnoky lehnt die Unterstützung des Fürsten Alexander ab. [B. 273.]

(Telegraphic.) Vienna, September 3, 1886.

Nr. 9308. England. 3. Sept. 1886. My Lord, || With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, I have the honour to report, that Count Kálnoky, in reply to my communication of the views of Her Majesty's Government, stated that the correspondence between the Emperor of Russia and the Prince of Bulgaria appeared to him to have created a situation in which it would be useless to proceed further in the course suggested by your Lordship, which, under other circumstances, he should have approved. || The Emperor of Russia's answer left no hope, that he would listen to any proposal in favour of the Prince, and it was also now evident that it would not be supported by Germany. || His Excellency's impression, moreover, from what he had heard of the Prince's sentiments, was, that his Highness is so discouraged and depressed that it was doubtful whether he is himself desirous of remaining. || Under these circumstances, his Excellency thought the only thing was to await the development of events. || I have reported the substance of the foregoing to your Lordship by telegraph to-day. || I have, &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 9309. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Fürst Alexanders Gründe für seine Abreise aus dem Lande; vergeblicher Versuch des Vertreters seinen Entschluss zu ändern. [B. 278.]

(Extract.) Sophia, September 3, 1886.

Nr. 9309. England. 3. Sept. 1886. I have this evening had a long interview with Prince Alexander, who is in a state of great despondency. His Highness said, that the military conspiracy extended much more widely than was generally supposed. Out of six commanders of brigades three were implicated in the plot, and twelve out of eighteen commanders of regiments. The army was in a complete state of disorganization, and His Highness could place no reliance on any of the civilians. M. Karaveloff was certainly acquainted with the plot, and had failed to give warning to His Highness, and although it was true that he had succeeded in preventing a conflict between the loyal and insurgent regiments, he had employed means of which His Highness as a soldier disapproved most strongly. His Highness went on to say that his return had vindicated the monarchical principle, and had cleared the honour of the Bulgarian nation from the reproach of having participated in a dastardly attack upon the person of their Sovereign. The people were, no doubt, with him, but it was impossible to govern with the people, and the leaders were not to be trusted.

Under these circumstances, he had made up his mind to leave the country, and his intention was to appoint a Council of Regency. || It is not His Highness' intention to abdicate formally, and he does not give up the hope of returning to Bulgaria; but under existing circumstances, he finds himself in the impossibility of governing the country, and he has, therefore, determined to give up his executive power into the hands of a Council of Regency. Nr. 9309. England. 3. Sept. 1886.

I used all the arguments I could think of to induce His Highness to change his resolution, but was unable to do more than obtain an assurance that His Highness would not take a final decision for three days. His Highness expressed in the strongest terms his gratitude to the Queen and to Her Majesty's Government for the kindness they had invariably shown him, and he hoped that they would not add to the difficulty of his very painful position by urging him to remain in Bulgaria.

Nr. 9310. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über den Einzug des Fürsten Alexander in Sophia und seine Absicht, das Land zu verlassen. [B. 277.]

Sophia, September 4, 1886.

My Lord, || Prince Alexander made his public entry into Sophia this morning. Both Mr. Stephen and I, as well as the Acting Agents of Italy and Roumania, drove out to some distance from the town to meet His Highness, who shook hands with us. His Highness' reception was most enthusiastic. A *Te Deum* was celebrated in the Cathedral, after which His Highness passed the troops in review before the gate of the Palace. This was followed by a reception of the Corps Diplomatique, at which all the foreign Representatives at Sophia were present with the exception of the Russian and German Agents*). His Highness then received the Bulgarian officers, who grouped themselves in a circle round him, and listened with visible emotion to a long and most pathetic speech which His Highness addressed to them. His Highness, who spoke in a low voice and was evidently deeply affected, said that he had had such confidence in the Bulgarian army that he could not have believed it possible that the very officers whom he had led to victory and had treated as his dearest friends should have turned their arms against him. His Highness alluded to the telegrams which had passed between him and the Czar, and said that he was prepared to make any sacrifice for the welfare of Bulgaria. He referred in general terms to the possibility of his leaving the country if his presence should prove to be an obstacle to its real interests. Major Nr. 9310. England. 4. Sept. 1886.

*) Dabei bemerkte Fürst Alexander zu dem als Doyen fungirenden englischen Vertreter: er danke ihm, dass er zurückgekehrt sei (aus Belgrad), um seinem politischen Leichenbegängnisse beizuwohnen. [B. 316.]

Nr. 9310. England. 4. Sept. 1886.

Popoff, who had throughout remained loyal to His Highness, replied that, His Highness' presence was an absolute necessity both for the army and the country with which His Highness had so thoroughly identified himself, and the Prince finally stated that he would take no decision without the knowledge of the army, but again alluded to the possibility of his leaving the country. His Highness requested me to come again to the Palace in the afternoon.

I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9311. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die maassgebenden Kreise in Sophia fordern Garantien von Russland für die Gestattung der Abreise des Fürsten; die Armee will sich derselben widersetzen. [B. 280.]

Sophia, September 5, 1886.

Nr. 9311. England. 5. Sept. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that, in the course of my conversation with Prince Alexander to-day, His Highness told me that he had informed the Prime Minister, M. Radoslavoff, the ex-Prime Minister, M. Karaveloff, and the President of the National Assembly, M. Stambouloff, that it was his intention to leave Bulgaria, in order that the country might be spared a Russian occupation. These gentlemen then resolved to consult the leaders of the various political parties in Sophia, but expressed their opinion that, if His Highness had decided to leave the country, he should abdicate formally. After a meeting of Notables had been held, they returned, and informed His Highness, that it had been agreed to accept his abdication, provided that the Bulgarian Constitution and the independence of the Principality should be recognized by Russia. These conditions were submitted to the Russian Acting Agent by a deputation, who stated that they were prepared to accept a Russian Minister of War, and to ask whether Russia would propose a candidate for the vacant throne. M. Bogdanoff told them, that he would refer to his Government for an answer, and they informed him that, if the answer were unfavourable, they would oppose Prince Alexander's departure.

A deputation of officers, who were received by the Prince this evening, informed His Highness that if he left Bulgaria they would oppose the Regency he might appoint, if it were not of their own way of thinking, and that they would proceed to execute the military conspirators. The officers in question have a large force at their back, and are quite capable of carrying out their threat. || Prince Alexander's position is therefore as follows: if Russia gives an answer of an unfavourable nature, the whole country will resist His Highness' departure. If, on the other hand, the answer is favourable, a portion of the army will endeavour to retain him, and will provoke a civil war if he goes; while, if he remains, he will find himself compelled to carry out a

number of military executions, notwithstanding the advice of Prince Bismarck. His Highness has reason to believe, that some of the Russian partizans among the officers have bound themselves to assassinate him if he remains in the country. || In His Highness' opinion, the present situation cannot possibly be prolonged for more than a few days without bloodshed, and he is awaiting the Russian reply with anxiety. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9311. England. 5. Sept. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9312. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Hat den bulgarischen Regenten die Sympathie und moralische Unterstützung Englands zugesichert. [B. 318.]

Sophia, September 5, 1886.

My Lord, || During the interview I had this morning with MM. Stambouloff and Radoslavoff, in which they requested me to inform your Lordship of the conditions without which the country would not permit Prince Alexander to leave Bulgaria, as I had the honour to report in my telegram of to-day, I took that opportunity of stating to these gentlemen that Bulgaria might count upon the sympathy and moral support of Her Majesty's Government. I said, that when the news of the conspiracy against Prince Alexander reached England there was an impression that it was a national movement against His Highness, and that an unfavourable impression of the Bulgarian nation was entertained until it became known that the conspirators were only few in number, and that the great majority of the nation remained faithful to the Prince. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9312. England. 5. Sept. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9313. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Auswärt. — Fürst Alexander schlägt die Einsetzung einer europäischen Commission zur Ueberwachung der Regierung in Bulgarien vor: die Desorganisation des Heeres mache sein Bleiben unmöglich. [B. 284.]

(Extract.) Sophia, September 6, 1886.

Prince Alexander informed me to-day, that he had requested the Representatives of Austria and Germany to suggest to their Governments that it would be advisable to appoint an European Commission to take over the administration of the country after his departure, and that this Commission should be composed of the Representatives of the Great Powers at Sophia. I gave my reasons for thinking that such a measure was not to be thought of. || The Prince still maintains his intention of leaving the country, as the army, which is the basis of his authority, is in a complete state of disorgani-

Nr. 9313. England. 6. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9313. England. 6. Sept. 1886.

zation. It is true, that at present the officers insist upon his remaining; but he had no guarantee that they may not turn against him again. His Highness, however, believes, that they intend to carry out their threat of opposing his departure, and this he regarded as a most dangerous symptom. The power is now in the hands of officers who represent what is now a disorganized band, and not an army. || The Prince added that, if he were to remain now, he would be obliged to proceed to such a large number of executions that they would amount to a massacre, and that it was almost certain that he would be assassinated in a very short time. || I am convinced, that His Highness' presence is likely to prevent disorder, whereas his departure would probably be the signal for an outbreak of something that would resemble civil war, which might furnish Russia with a pretext for a military occupation of the country.

Nr. 9314. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Dringt erneut auf Verbleiben des Fürsten im Lande. [B. 285.]

Foreign Office, September 6, 1886.

Nr. 9314. England. 6. Sept. 1886.

Sir, || I have received your telegram of the 6th instant, informing me of a suggestion of Prince Alexander, that a European Commission should be appointed to administer the country on his departure. || The difficulties in which both Bulgaria and Europe would be involved through the abdication of Prince Alexander are of so serious a nature, that Her Majesty's Government desire you earnestly to urge upon His Highness that he should remain and guide the country through the present crisis. || I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9315. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Pforte erklärt sich dem bulgarischen Ansinnen, bis zur Neuwahl eines Fürsten jeder auswärtigen Besetzung des Landes entgegenzutreten, geneigt. [B. 286.]

Therapia, September 6, 1886.

Nr. 9315. England. 6. Sept. 1886.

My Lord, || I had the honour to report to you by telegraph, this day, that a telegram was received yesterday evening by the Porte from the Bulgarian Government, stating that it was the wish of Prince Alexander to leave Bulgaria; they would, however, refuse to assent to this course until the Porte gave them a guarantee that, pending the election of another Prince, Turkey would prevent any foreign occupation or interference. || This step has afforded pleasure to the Porte, as giving evidence of a due regard for the suzerainty of Turkey, and showing a way of escape from the present dangerous position

of affairs. || Kiamil Pasha informed me, that he intended, if he obtained His Imperial Majesty's sanction, to send the following reply to the Bulgarian Government:— Nr. 9315. England. 6. Sept. 1886.

"We will address a request to the Powers to enable us to give the guarantee you desire." || The recent appeal of Prince Alexander to the Czar, in which he stated he had received his Crown from Russia, thus ignoring the Sultan's suzerainty, has caused great irritation at the Porte. || I have, &c.

Edmund Fane.

Nr. 9316. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Officiere haben ihren Widerstand gegen die Abreise des Fürsten aufgegeben. [B. 287.]

Sophia, September 6, 1886.

My Lord, || It has been decided at a meeting of officers and Notables which was held this afternoon to make no further opposition to the departure of Prince Alexander. His Highness desires to leave Sophia to-morrow; but I have been informed, that it will scarcely be possible for him to do so until the 8th instant. His Highness' manifesto is being drawn up, and measures are being taken to form a Regency and Cabinet. || The Regents, Ministers and a large number of officers and Notables will accompany His Highness to the Austrian frontier. || I have forwarded the above to Her Majesty's Ambassadors at Vienna and Constantinople. || I have, &c. Nr. 9316. England. 6. Sept. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9317. **BULGARIEN.** — Abschiedsrede des Fürsten Alexander an das diplomatische Corps. [Gr. 20.]

Je prépare une communication aux représentants des grandes puissances pour leur faire connaître ma décision. || Comme il n'y a pas de ministre des affaires étrangères, c'est moi-même qui signerai cette communication. Nr. 9317. Bulgarien. 7. Sept. 1886.

Je partirai aujourd'hui, entre 3 et 4 heures, ainsi que je l'annonce dans ma proclamation qu'on est en train d'imprimer. || Les circonstances très difficiles que traverse le pays exigent que je parte; je donne l'exemple d'un Prince qui se sacrifie dans l'intérêt de ses sujets. Je crois ne pas me tromper en disant que la position que j'ai occupée a été la plus difficile en Europe; je ne sais pas si mon successeur pourra être plus heureux que moi. || En quittant la Bulgarie, de mes sept ans de séjour ici je remporte beaucoup de bons souvenirs, mais aussi les plus tristes. Parmi les premiers, je compte les bonnes relations que j'ai toujours eues avec le corps diplomatique, qui, dans les circonstances les plus difficiles, m'a aidé de ses conseils, m'a soutenu et entouré de sympathie et d'amabilités. C'est grâce à vous que le séjour ici

Nr. 9317. Bulgarien. 7. Sept. 1886.

m'a été rendu agréable, en me permettant de travailler avec assiduité dans l'intérêt de la Bulgarie.

J'ai fait mon possible pour donner le bonheur à mon pays, mais à cause de mon inexpérience, je n'y ai pas réussi; je souhaite, dans l'intérêt de la Bulgarie, que mon successeur se donne autant de peine que je m'en suis donné moi-même, mais qu'il ait plus de chance. || J'ai voulu retourner en Bulgarie — et je suis content que ce soit arrivé plus tôt que je ne croyais —, pour me séparer de mon peuple en bon ami et *ne pas être chassé comme un malfaiteur et colporté de nuit dans la boue.* || Je savais bien que le protocole de Constantinople m'avait *cassé le cou*; en me réduisant au rôle de simple fonctionnaire turc, dont on peut facilement se débarrasser, on a donné une arme terrible à l'opposition, tout en portant atteinte à ma dignité. || J'ai fait tout mon possible pour éviter ce coup et je me suis toujours opposé à ce protocole; *mais j'étais seul, un contre tous, et je n'ai pu lutter.*

Nr. 9318. BULGARIEN. — Fürst Alexander an die Vertreter der Grossmächte in Sophia. — Zeigt seine Abreise an und übersendet die Proclamation an das bulgarische Volk. [B. 347; Gr. 20, darin das Manifest italienisch.]

Au Palais de Sophia, le 26 Août, 1886.

Nr. 9318. Bulgarien. 7. Sept. 1886.

M. l'Agent, || Mon élection au Trône de la Bulgarie ayant été sanctionnée par les Grandes Puissances, et comme, par des raisons de la politique extérieure, je me crois obligé de quitter le pays, je vous transmets par la présente une copie de la Proclamation par laquelle je dépose le Gouvernement entre les mains d'une Régence Nationale. || Agréez, &c. Alexandre.

Manifesto.

(Translation.)

To the Bulgarian Nation!

We, Alexander, &c.

Being convinced of the painful truth, that our departure from Bulgaria will facilitate the restoration of good relations between Bulgaria and her liberator Russia, and having received an assurance from the Government of His Imperial Majesty the Russian Emperor that the rights, freedom and independence of our State shall remain intact, and that no one shall meddle in its internal affairs:

Do hereby announce to our beloved people, that we renounce the Bulgarian Throne, as we desire to prove to all how dear to us are the interests of our country, and how we are ready to sacrifice all, even that which is dearer than life itself, for its welfare and independence. .

While we express our sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the feelings of love and devotion which all our people nourished and nourish towards us in

the sad and joyful days which the Bulgarian State has passed since we set foot upon Bulgarian soil, we quit the bounds of the Principality, and offer, and will continue to offer to the end of our days, the warmest prayers that God Almighty will preserve, protect and aid Bulgaria to become great, powerful, happy and independent. Nr. 9318. Bulgarien. 7. Sept. 1886.

We appoint as Regents S. Stambouloff, P. Karaveloff, and Lieutenant-Colonel S. Mutkuroff, and enjoin upon all Bulgarian citizens that they obey and execute the orders and dispositions of the Regency and Ministry constituted by us, and maintain peace and order, so as not to further aggravate the difficult position of the country.

God save Bulgaria!

Given at our capital this 26th August, 1886. Alexander.

Nr. 9319. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Bismarck erklärt jetzt den Zeitpunkt für gekommen, wo die Grossmächte sich der bulgarischen Angelegenheit annehmen könnten. [B. 288.]

(Telegraphic.) Berlin, September 7, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that Prince Bismarck is of opinion that it is now open to the Great Powers to take the Bulgarian question into consideration, Prince Alexander's abdication being taken as a point of departure, and the Chancellor would be willing to entertain a proposition with this object in view. || I have, &c. Nr. 9319. England. 7. Sept. 1886.

(For Sir E. Malet), Charles S. Scott.

Nr. 9320. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über seine Vorstellungen bei Giers betreffs Erhaltung des Fürsten Alexander auf dem Throne und deren unbedingte Ablehnung*). [B. 295.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, September 7, 1886.

My Lord, || M. de Giers returned from Franzensbad on Sunday evening. I called on his Excellency yesterday, but he was with the Emperor at Peterhof. He returned my call this afternoon, and I have just had a long conversation with him. Nr. 9320. England. 7. Sept. 1886.

*) Ergänzend berichtet Sir Morier noch am selben Tage, dass Giers in diesem Gespräche betreffs des Wiedereintritts russischer Officiere in die bulgarische Armee geäussert habe, „that Russia, having no intention in any way to meddle with the autonomy of Bulgaria, did not dream of sending officers there and would, *le cas échéant*, only send instructors if wished for."

Nr. 9320. England. 7. Sept. 1886.

I began by asking his Excellency what were the latest news from Sophia. He said, that the Prince seemed alternately to decide to leave and then to stay, and he thought the last news was in the latter direction. I said I sincerely hoped it was, as Her Majesty's Government took the strongest interest in His Highness, and earnestly desired his definitive restoration to his throne. || His Excellency observed, that he was well aware of this, but that we were the only Power holding this view. He feared, however, that we had not calculated the dangers and misfortunes which would certainly accrue to all concerned, and more especially to the Prince, if we succeeded in our enterprise and restored His Highness to his throne. However, this was our concern, not his. Russia had no intention whatever to interfere. The Emperor had said so, and would keep his word. She had ceased once and for ever all connection with the Prince, and got rid of an intolerable nightmare ("cauchemar"), which had weighed equally on all Russians alike, from the Czar to the peasant, and she would now leave Bulgaria to the Bulgarians to do as they listed.

I said, that the Russian Government had declared that the re-establishment of order and the saving of Bulgaria from anarchy were the objects they had at heart. Obviously, the only means of attaining this object would be co-operation between the Emperor and the Prince. His Highness had appealed to His Majesty to assist him, and had received a curt refusal. In what way would the object be furthered by his now abdicating? Did it not stand to reason that, with the devotion of the army to his cause, and the enthusiastic loyalty of at least a large part of the population, he had more ample means at his disposal for restoring order and preventing anarchy than any other conceivable candidate would have? It would be absurd to pretend that our interests and those of Russia were not, in many ways, antagonistic in these Bulgarian affairs; but on this point, that of the maintenance of order and the prevention of anarchy, we were at full accord, and, consequently, Her Majesty's Government, in giving their full support to His Highness' restoration, would, if successful, have compassed an object which Russia had equally at heart. Could any reasonable man, I said, attempt to deny that a reconciliation between the Emperor and the Prince would at once re-establish the completest order in a country distracted by the rivalries of the adherents of the one and the other. If then, abstaining, as Russia engaged to do, from all interference with our efforts to restore His Highness, we succeeded in our object, was there no hope that with such a *fait accompli* before him, the Emperor might reconsider his decision, and be reconciled to a kinsman who would then have proved himself so capable of fulfilling the task assigned to him? || His Excellency, with unusual warmth, replied that this could never be. I could form no idea, he said, of the intensity of the hatred animating every class of the Russian nation, from the highest to the lowest, against the Prince, which late events had revealed, and of which he himself had had no adequate conception till he had,

Nr. 9320. England. 7. Sept. 1886.

as it were, come into bodily contact with it when recrossing, three days before, the Russian frontier. || I expressed my amazement at this statement, observing that I had always believed that the feud was a personal one between the Emperor and his cousin, in which the nation only took part from loyalty to their Sovereign. || He replied, that this was altogether a wrong conception. "That unfortunate young man ('ce pauvre jeune homme') — for," said M. de Giers, "I cannot but sincerely pity him and regard him even more as a victim of circumstances than of his own faults, though these have been many—has become, in the eyes of the Russian people, the incarnation and embodiment of everything which most deeply stirs the national indignation. He represents, in the first place, the untold ingratitude of the Bulgarians for their deliverers, and reminds them of the losses of blood and treasure incurred in a war which yielded no other results but disappointments. In the second place, he reminds them of all the humiliations submitted to in the Constantinople Conference and since. Lastly, he represents the hopes and desires of Russia's enemies. Never, therefore, could there be peace between him and the Russian people."

I said, that, if this were so, the prospect was a black one indeed. The point of view from which the British nation viewed the question was necessarily a very different one. They regarded His Highness as a Prince who had striven to the best of his abilities to create a free and orderly community in the territories committed to his charge, and they had throughout wished him success in his arduous undertaking. If, with the tremendous odds and the hostility of Russia against him, he now succeeded in once more grasping the reins of Power with a steady hand, and again stood forth as the constitutional Head of a law-abiding State, I believed the people of England would be deeply moved and would scarcely look on with indifference should an attempt be made from without to disturb this state of things. || His Excellency repeated, as he had on several occasions previously done, that there was not the slightest intention on the part of Russia to interfere. || I have, &c.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9321. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Instruction. [Gr. 19.]

(Telegramma.) Roma, 9 settembre 1886, ore 7 pom.

Nr. 9321. Italien. 9. Sept. 1886.

Senza che occorra fare atto speciale di riconoscimento, la Signoria Vostra vorrà continuare puramente e semplicemente, col governo della reggenza, i rapporti officiali finora avuti col governo principesco.

Robilant.

Nr. 9322. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Auswärtigen. — Bericht über die Abreise des Fürsten Alexander aus Sophia. [B. 299.]

Sophia, September 7, 1886.

Nr. 9322. England. 7. Sept. 1886.

My Lord, || At 4 o'clock this afternoon Prince Alexander left Sophia. The scene at the Palace was most affecting. The grace, dignity and kindness with which His Highness took leave of those who had come to bid him farewell produced the deepest impression upon all present, to each of whom His Highness addressed a few kind words. His Highness was evidently deeply moved, but went through the painful ceremony with the greatest possible dignity. A long line of carriages followed His Highness, a large number of persons and nearly all the Bulgarian authorities having determined to accompany His Highness to the frontier. || The Prince's Proclamation announcing the formation of a Regency and his abdication has been published, and His Highness had himself signed a note addressed to each of the Representatives of the Great Powers to communicate this Proclamation to them. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9323. TÜRKEI. — Min. des Ausw. an die Botschafter bei den Grossmächten. — Ersucht die Mächte um Zustimmung zu der von Bulgarien geforderten Erklärung, dass nach der Abreise des Fürsten keine fremde Intervention stattfinden werde. [B. 296.]

(Télégraphique.) Constantinople, le 8 Septembre, 1886.

Nr. 9323. Türkei. 8. Sept. 1886.

Le Commissaire Impérial à Sophia nous informe que le Prince Alexandre de Bulgarie a résolu de résigner ses pouvoirs, et de quitter la Principauté et que de leur côté les Présidents de l'Assemblée Bulgare et du Ministère Princier, tout en engageant notre Commissaire à nous communiquer officiellement cette résolution, ont fait en même temps remarquer que le Gouvernement, l'armée, la population Bulgare ne pourraient se résoudre à laisser partir [le Prince] avant d'avoir reçu de la Cour Suzeraine et des Grandes Puissances l'assurance qu'il n'y aura point d'occupation ni d'ingérence étrangère en Bulgarie, et que les conditions d'existence garanties à la Principauté par les Traités seront sauvegardées. || Nous avons chargé notre Commissaire de déclarer en réponse au Gouvernement Princier que, vu les circonstances présentes, nous ne pouvons que consentir à la résolution du Prince de quitter la Bulgarie, que tant que la Principauté ne s'écartera point de la voie de la légalité, du calme et de la sagesse, en attendant la nomination du successeur du Prince, ainsi que des devoirs qui lui incombent vis-à-vis de la Cour Suzeraine, une intervention quelconque ne saurait y avoir lieu d'aucune part; que, par conséquent, prenant en considération la démarche dont il s'agit, nous nous sommes mis en

communication à cet égard avec les Grandes Puissances pour être à même de satisfaire au désir exprimé par les dits Présidents. || En faisant part de ce qui précède à M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères vous voudrez bien y attirer sa sérieuse attention, et porter à sa connaissance que la démarche dont il s'agit des Ministres Bulgares mérite d'autant plus d'être prise en considération par le Gouvernement Impérial qu'il est indispensable de mettre au plus tôt fin à la situation anormale qui désole la Principauté Bulgare et la Roumélie-Orientale, et préoccupe à juste titre les Puissances, au moment surtout où le Prince se retire de son poste, et d'y assurer le respect des engagements internationaux. || Je dois ajouter ici que le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie a bien voulu à plusieurs reprises assurer que, dès l'instant où le Prince Alexandre quitterait la Bulgarie, la Russie n'aurait nullement l'intention d'y intervenir et qu'elle ne désire que de voir régner l'ordre aussi bien dans la Principauté que dans la Roumélie-Orientale. || Dans cette occurrence nous pensons qu'il serait juste et urgent que nous soyons en mesure d'assurer au Gouvernement de la Principauté en notre nom et en celui des Grandes Puissances, qu'aucune intervention étrangère n'aura lieu en Bulgarie, et que les conditions qui lui ont été garanties par les Traités seront à l'abri de toute atteinte. || Veuillez prier le Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité de vouloir bien nous donner sa réponse sur ce qui précède, et nous la communiquer sans retard.

Nr. 9323. Türkei. 8. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9324. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Antwort Oesterreichs auf die türkische Note. [B. 304.]

Vienna, September 9, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, desiring me to ascertain whether the Austrian Government had received a communication from the Porte asking the Great Powers to join in an assurance to the Bulgarian Government that no foreign intervention should take place in Bulgaria, that the conditions guaranteed to it by the Treaties should be secured, and to report what answer the Austrian Government intended to make. || The communication in question was sent to Count Kálnoky yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock; but having left last evening to attend the manoeuvres in Galicia, I saw the Secretary-General, who informed me that before leaving his Excellency had authorized him to give the following verbal answer to the Turkish Ambassador:—

"The Austrian Government will place itself in communication with the other Powers, but in the meantime declares that it places itself now, as always, on the basis of existing Treaties; and there will be no intervention whatever on its part, and that it hopes and is persuaded three will be none on the part of any other Power. Such intervention would be contrary to its views."

Nr. 9324. England. 9. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9324. England. 9. Sept. 1886. The Secretary-General informed me that, the other Governments would be asked if they intended to reply in writing. || I have, &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 9325. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Antwort Deutschlands auf das türkische Rundschreiben. [B. 308.]

(Telegram.) Berlin, September 9, 1886.

Nr. 9325. England. 9. Sept. 1886. My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that on the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, inquiring whether the Imperial Government had received a communication from the Sublime Porte on the Bulgarian question, and, if so, what reply the Imperial Government proposed to make to it, I had an interview with Count Bismarck, who informed me that the Turkish Circular in question had been communicated to him to-day. His Excellency read it to me, and said that he had given a verbal reply to the Turkish Ambassador to the effect that it did not seem necessary for the Imperial Government to return a direct answer to the first part of the Circular; that, although the fact had not as yet been officially notified to the Powers, Prince Alexander appeared to have already quitted Bulgaria; that the Sultan ought to be satisfied with the distinct and satisfactory assurances given by the Russian Government that it had no intention of intervening in Bulgaria, and Germany had certainly no such intention. || With regard to the question addressed by the Porte to the Powers generally, Count Bismarck informed the Turkish Ambassador that the Imperial Government could not give a reply without previously consulting with the other Powers. || Count Bismarck then expressed to me his private opinion that, if it was the intention of the Porte to ask the Powers for a joint assurance guaranteeing the Treaty conditions of Bulgaria, the Chancellor would decline to give it, as useless, remembering the official interpretation placed by Her Majesty's Government in the case of Luxemburg upon the obligations of a joint guarantee, but that he considered that the Treaty of Berlin, which until altered by general consent remained in full force, ought to be sufficient security to satisfy both the Sultan and the Bulgarian Government. || I have, &c. Charles S. Scott.

Nr. 9326. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Russlands Zusicherung der Nichtintervention in Bulgarien erscheint der deutschen Regierung unbedingt. [B. 309.]

(Telegram.) Berlin, September 9, 1886.

Nr. 9326. England. 9. Sept. 1886. My Lord, || During my interview with Count Bismarck to-day, his Excellency informed me that he distinctly understands the assurance on the part of the

Russian Government of non-intervention in Bulgaria given by M. de Giers to the Chancellor to be unconditional, and to hold good under all circumstances*). || His Excellency also stated, that some surprise and disappointment had been expressed by the Russian Chargé d'Affaires at the absence of any name friendly to the Russian Government in the list of the Provisional Regency and Administration in Bulgaria. || I have, &c. Charles S. Scott. Nr. 9326. England. 9. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9327. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Karaveloffs Stellung ist bedroht. [B. 322.]

(Telegraphic. Extract.) Sophia, September 11, 1886.

M. Natchevitch, the present Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who has just arrived in Sophia, called upon me this afternoon. He told me, that many of the Deputies are hostile to M. Karaveloff being one of the Regents, as they suspect him of complicity in the plot against Prince Alexander. He did not, however, anticipate much difficulty from them, although it would probably be advisable to put off the meeting of the Chamber, which had been convoked for to-morrow, for two days. This would give time for M. Stambouloff, who is expected to arrive to-morrow, to use his personal influence with them before the Chamber meets. The officers are in an excited and irritated state of mind, and may give some trouble; but M. Natchevitch is convinced, that the Government will be strong enough to suppress any disorders, and that no serious disturbances, such as would give an excuse for any foreign interference, would occur. || In my conversations with the different Bulgarians with whom I have spoken I have strongly urged the necessity of maintaining order and tranquillity in the country, and of not providing a pretext for a foreign occupation of the country. Nr. 9327. England. 11. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9328. **DEUTSCHLAND.** — Artikel der Norddeutschen Allgemeinen Zeitung vom 11. September. — Dementi der in der Presse verbreiteten Gerüchte über eine von Russland, Deutschland und Oesterreich an den Fürsten Alexander gerichtete Note**).

Durch die Presse geht die Nachricht, der Fürst von Bulgarien sei fest entschlossen gewesen, die Rädelsführer bei der Revolution erschiessen zu lassen, und sei von diesem Entschluss nur durch eine von Russland, Deutsch- Nr. 9328. Deutschland. 11. Sept. 1886.

*) Am folgenden Tage telegraphirt Sir Morier aus St.-Petersburg, dass Herr Vlangaly in Wiederholung der Versicherungen Giers' erklärt habe, die Pforte sei in Beantwortung ihres Circulars versichert worden, „that the Russian Government have no intention of intervening in Bulgaria or meddling with her autonomy" [B. 312]; am 11. September giebt auch Iddesleigh der Pforte die Versicherung, „that there will not on their part

Nr. 9328. Deutschland. 11.Sept.1886. land und Oesterreich an ihn gerichtete Note abgebracht worden, in welcher die genannten Mächte erklärt hätten, dass sie die Erschiessung auch nur eines einzigen Verschwornen nicht zulassen würden. Wir können diese Mitteilung als gänzlich unrichtig bezeichnen. Die Mächte haben sich darauf beschränkt, dem Fürsten von Bulgarien den Rat zu erteilen, im Interesse der Ruhe des Landes keine Hinrichtungen vorzunehmen. Es ist dies ausdrücklich mit dem Hinweis darauf motivirt worden, dass, falls Hinrichtungen jetzt erfolgten, die Gefahr nahe läge, es möchten in dem möglicherweise nicht fern liegenden Falle einer neuen politischen Umwälzung Gegenhinrichtungen vorgenommen werden.

Nr. 9329. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Zankoff wünscht eine Verfassungsänderung in Bulgarien und an Stelle der Neuwahl eines Fürsten einen von Europa bestellten Regenten und ein organisches Statut. [B. 349.]

Sophia, September 12, 1886.

Nr. 9326. England. 12.Sept.1885. My Lord, || On the 8th instant, the day following Prince Alexander's departure, I received to my great astonishment a visit from M. Dragan Zankoff. He began by saying, that the thanks of all Bulgarians were due those who had taken part in driving away the Prince, and that I had been very instrumental in bringing about this result by the support which I had given to His Highness, and which had induced him to follow the path which led to his overthrow. || I told M. Zankoff, that I did not in the least share his opinion, that I regarded His Highness' departure as a misfortune for the country, and the manner in which he went away as a moral triumph for the Prince. M. Zankoff admitted, that this was so, and regretted that it should have been the means of creating a new party in Bulgaria, who were in favour of His Highness. There were already too many parties in the State who thought more of their own interest than of those of the country. On my observing that it would have been most astonishing if the country were not in favour of the Prince considering the services he had rendered to it, and that he had saved it from the Servian invader, M. Zankoff said that the Prince had rendered no services to the country, and that it was Providence which had saved it from the Servians. To this I replied, that Prince Alexander had certainly been the instrument which Providence had made use of on that occasion. || With regard to the furture, M. Zankoff said that it would be a great mistake to convoke the Great National Assembly for the election of a new Prince.

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be any occupation of the Principality, or any infraction of the conditions guaranteed by Treaties to that country. [B. 323.]

**) Am nämlichen Tage sendet der englische Vertreter in Berlin dem Earl Iddesleigh einen Auszug aus diesem Artikel. [B. 327.]

No one would be found who would accept the Throne under the present conditions, and it was absolutely necessary that some modifications should be made in the Constitution. I reminded him, that hitherto he had absolutely refused to entertain the idea of a revision of the Constitution, but he said that he had now become convinced of its necessity, and he hoped that Europe would send a Commissioner to administer the country and confer an Organic Statute upon it. || I replied, that I had no knowledge of what Europe intended to do, but that it appeared to me that the experience of Eastern Roumelia was not very encouraging as regards an Organic Statute. With regard to the eventuality of a Russian occupation, on which point he had asked my opinion, I said that it appeared to me that, judging by recent events, neither Austria nor Germany would take any steps to prevent it if the state of the country should render it necessary. It was therefore most important that no pretext should be given for such an occupation, to which I was convinced that M. Zankoff himself would be the first to object. The events of the last fortnight had, however, made this eventuality much more probable, and the only way I saw of averting the danger would be for Bulgarians of all parties to lay aside their personal jealousies and animosities and work together for the maintenance of order. || I have not failed to use similar language to the leading Bulgarians with whom I have had an opportunity of speaking, and I understand now that they so clearly see the gravity of the situation, and are so determined that their country shall not become a Russian province, that there is great hope of the Regency and Government obtaining the support of all parties in the State. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9329. England. 12. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9330. **BULGARIEN.** — Botschaft der Regenten bei Eröffnung der Sobranje am 13. September. [B. 350.]

(Translation.)

MM. les Députés, || Vous n'ignorez pas les derniers tristes événements que notre pays a traversés, ainsi que le manifeste du 26 du mois passé que Son Altesse le Prince a adressé à la nation Bulgare, et dans lequel le Prince Alexandre déclare qu'après s'être persuadé que l'indépendance, la liberté et les droits de notre État ne seront pas lésés, a résolu de renoncer au Trône de Bulgarie afin que les bonnes relations fussent rétablies entre la Bulgarie et la Russie libératrice.

Nr. 9330. Bulgarien. 13. Sept. 1886.

Messieurs les Députés, || En présence de l'état critique où se trouve notre pays, nous sommes profondément persuadés que tous les citoyens Bulgares sans distinction de race, de culte et de parti donneront au Gouvernement leur appui fort et leur coopération patriotique, afin que d'un côté l'ordre, la tranquillité et la sécurité intérieure soient sauvegardés, et que, de l'autre, notre État puisse sortir de la crise actuelle sans le moindre préjudice pour ses droits. || Pour

Nr. 9330. Bulgarien. 13.Sept.1886.

ne pas laisser longtemps vacant le Trône Bulgare, le Gouvernement, se conformant aux prescriptions de la Constitution, convoquera dans le plus bref délai la Grande Assemblée Nationale pour l'élection du Prince Bulgare.

Messieurs les Députés, || Le Gouvernement vous présentera quelques Projets de Loi et quelques propositions importantes concernant les dispositions déjà prises, ainsi que celles qu'il est indispensable de prendre dans les circonstances graves que le pays traverse. || En nous basant, MM. les Députés, sur votre patriotisme éprouvé et sur votre empressement à tout sacrifier pour la sécurité et la grandeur de la Patrie, et espérant que vous examinerez avec une sérieuse attention les Projets de Loi du Gouvernement, nous déclarons ouverte la Session actuelle de la IVe Assemblée Nationale Ordinaire, et nous invoquons sur vos actes la bénédiction du Très-Haut.

La Régence, S. Stambouloff.
P. Karaveloff.
Lieutenant-Colonel Moutkouroff.

Nr. 9331. **ENGLAND.** — Viceconsul in Warna an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Bericht über die Stimmung der Bevölkerung nach der Abreise des Fürsten. [B. 393.]

(Extract.)

Varna, September 11, 1886.

Nr. 9331. England. 11.Sept.1886.

I have the honour to submit to you the following appreciation of the general moral results of the recent political events, as amply evidenced by the bearing and utterances of all classes of the population of these parts. || Prince Alexander's departure inexpressibly deplored by all, even by those who were Zankoffists in opinion, but who had not too openly compromised themselves; and though the more sensible and reflecting among them allow that the Prince had hardly any other alternative, and, under existing circumstances, had acted for the weal of the country as well as for his own dignity, they view with dismay the fatal consequences brought upon them by the treachery of a comparatively few hirelings. || Dismay and a kind of resigned pessimism are the prominent features of the present popular feeling. All hopes of a really free Bulgaria, even though territorially much aggrandized, seem to them gone, and although they may expect a short period of semi-independence, they believe that unless the chapter of political accidents unexpectedly helps them, they are destined to be absorbed into Russia as one of its provinces; and to any one acquainted with their strongly developed feeling of nationality, greatly increased since the last war, this means to them the loss of one of their most cherished ideas, for putting aside the loss of liberty and independence, the Bulgar peasants deem themselves, taken generally, bulk for bulk, and man for man, intellectually much superior to the Russian moujik, and most people, having means of judging, would share this opinion.

Nr. 9332. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Sobranje-Eröffnung und die Antwort Russlands auf die bulgarischen Anfragen. [B. 331.]

Sophia, September 13, 1886.

Nr. 9332. England. 13.Sept.1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that the Bulgarian National Assembly was opened to-day. A speech was read by M. Stambouloff on behalf of the Regents, appealing for the support of all parties to maintain order, and stating that measures would be taken by the Government for convoking the Great National Assembly, and for submitting certain indispensable measures to the Chamber. || The Russian Government appear inclined to hold entirely aloof, and have replied to the deputation to which I had the honour to refer in my telegram of the 4th instant —

1. That their recognition of the Regency will be conditional upon its behaviour;

2. Thas they decline to guarantee the emission of Bulgarian Treasury bonds;

3. That the union with Eastern Roumelia must proceed by peaceful methods; and

4. That the time had not yet come to discuss the question of a candidate for the vacant Throne of Bulgaria.

The various parties in the State seem resolved to work together for the maintenance of order, and I am assured that no fears on that head need be entertained as far as Bulgaria is concerned, although there are some districts in Eastern Roumelia where endeavours to provoke disorder may possibly meet with success. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9333. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Zeigt den Empfang der bulgarischen Note über die Neubildung der Regierung an*). [B. 354.]

Sophia, le 1er (13) Septembre, 1886.

Nr. 9333. England. 13.Sept.1886.

M. le Ministre, || J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note que M. Guéchoff, le Ministre des Finances, a bien voulu m'adresser en date du 27 Août (v. s.) pour m'annoncer la formation du Gouvernement de la Régence dans lequel votre Excellence remplit le poste de Ministre des Affaires Étrangères. || En me félicitant de me trouver encore une fois en relations officielles avec votre Excellence, je la prie d'agréer, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

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*) Nach dem Begleitschreiben Lascelles' zu der an Earl of Iddesleigh gesandten Abschrift hatte er diese Note auf besonderes Ansuchen Stoiloffs, des bulgarischen Justizministers, abgehen lassen, welcher diese formelle Anerkennung der Regierung erbeten hatte, um gegen die Zweifel betreffs der Rechtmässigkeit der Regentschaft gedeckt zu sein.

Nr. 9334. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Natschewitsch hat die Wiederherstellung diplomatischer Beziehungen zu Serbien angeregt. [B. 353.]

Sophia, September 14, 1886.

Nr. 9334. England. 14.Sept.1886.

My Lord, || M. Rangabé, the Greek Agent and Consul-General, who is charged with the interests of Servia, has informed me, that he had been requested by M. Natchevitch to express at Belgrade the desire of the Bulgarian Government to renew diplomatic relations with Servia, and the hope that King Milan would receive an accredited Agent from Bulgaria. M. Rangabé at once communicated this to the Servian Government, and at the same time suggested to M. Natchevitch that it would be better to address to him an official note on the subject, indicating the name of the person whom the Bulgarian Government proposed to appoint. M. Natchevitch agreed to this suggestion, and said he would comply with it as soon as the Government should have selected a proper person for the mission. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9335. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die Lage in Bulgarien. [B. 352.]

Sophia, September 14, 1886.

Nr. 9335. England. 14.Sept.1886.

My Lord, || The journey of Prince Alexander from Sophia to Lom Palanka appears to have been a series of almost uninterrupted ovations, and His Highness' reception at Widdin, where he landed to take leave of the garrison, has been described to me by eyewitnesses as having reached the utmost pitch of enthusiasm. || Before leaving, His Highness strongly impressed upon the officers the absolute necessity of order being maintained, and obtained from them their word of honour that they would not take part in any disturbances, and would do their best to prevent them taking place. I am informed that, in order to get the officers to agree to this, His Highness was obliged to hold out hopes of his return to Bulgaria. However this may be, the disturbances which there was every reason to fear would break out on His Highness' departure have not taken place, and this must be in a great measure attributed to the personal influence of the Prince, which would alone have been able to restrain the officers in the state of indignation into which His Highness' departure threw them. || At present it would seem, that all parties have determined to support the Regency and the Government appointed by the Prince. The Russians are questioning the legality of the Regency, on the ground that neither M. Stambouloff nor Colonel Mutkuroff have the constitutional qualifications for the post of Regent. Technically speaking, this objection would seem to be justified, as the Constitution provides that the Regents should have held the posts either of Ministers or of members of the Court of Cassation; but it is argued, that the present state of things is quite

exceptional, and that the case of a Prince abdicating after having been abducted was not foreseen in the Constitution. In any case, the Regency has been recognized by the Chamber, and it would seem that all parties in the State intend to support it. || The situation of the country, although very critical, does not appear to me to be hopeless as regards the maintenance of the independence of the country. Recent events have caused a feeling of resentment against Russia; but the Bulgarians understand, that they must avoid furnishing a pretext for a Russian occupation; and if at this moment they seek to avoid giving any cause of fresh irritation to Russia, their action, as explained to me by M. Karaveloff, is dictated by policy and not by sympathy. M. Karaveloff has explained to me, that the election of a Prince is now rather a European than a Bulgarian question, and he hopes that before the Great National Assembly meets the Powers will have expressed their views on the subject; and M. Stambouloff, in a conversation he has had with Mr. Stephen, stated that he had informed the Russian Agent that the Bulgarians would accept any candidate proposed by Russia on three conditions, viz.: (1) that he should not be of lower rank than Prince Alexander; (2) that he would undertake to govern according to the Constitution; and (3) that his election should meet with the approval of all the Powers. Nr. 9335. England. 14. Sept. 1886.

The Session of the Chamber is not expected to last for more than two or three days more, and I understand that a decision will be taken to proceed as soon as possible with the elections for a Great National Assembly, without indicating the date at which it shall be convoked. || The financial state of the country is likely to cause considerable embarrassment; but the Government hope to obtain powers from the Chamber which will enable them to raise a loan to tide them over present difficulties. || In my conversations with Bulgarians I have dwelt strongly upon the necessity of peace and order being maintained, and I find that this advice corresponds with what is generally considered as the course of action which would best promote the true interests of the country, and at the same time increase the probability of the return of Prince Alexander, who, if he were to return, would certainly be received with acclamations throughout the whole of Bulgaria. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9336. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Widerstand in der Sobranje gegen die Adresse an den Zaren; Russland bestreitet die Rechtmässigkeit der Regentschaft; Oesterreich will die Bulgaren in der Wahrung ihrer Unabhängigkeit unterstützen. [B. 333.]

Sophia, September 14, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that, in the Bulgarian Chamber to-day, the appointment of two Commissions was placed upon the order of the Nr. 9336. England. 14. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9336. England. 14. Sept. 1886.

day. The first of these will be charged to draw up an Address in reply to the Regents' Speech, and the second was to prepare an Adress to the Emperor of Russia; but the proposal to appoint the latter had to be withdrawn in consequence of the strong private remonstrances of a large number of Members of the House. || I am given to understand, that the Russians are calling the legality of the Regency in question, on the ground that two of its members do not possess the necessary qualifications. The National Assembly, however, have accepted it, and all parties in the country appear resolved to give it their support. || The Austrian Agent has addressed himself in strong terms to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, assuring him that, if Bulgaria avoids giving any pretext for foreign interference, she may rely upon the support of Austria with respect to the maintenance of her independence. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9337. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die Sobranje beschliesst, die Adresse an den Zaren nicht fallen zu lassen. [B. 334.]

Sophia, September 15, 1886.

Nr. 9337. England. 15. Sept. 1886.

My Lord, || The Bulgarian Chamber have voted to-day the address to the Czar to which I alluded in my telegram of yesterday. || It has always been the custom at the commencement of each Session to send a telegram to His Imperial Majesty, and although the opposition of a great number of Deputies made it necessary to withraw the motion from the order of the day yesterday, it was decided in a secret meeting held last night, that it would be undesirable to depart from the usual custom. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9338. **BULGARIEN.** — Telegramm der Sobranje an den Zaren. Bitte um seine Protektion zur Vereinigung und Unabhängigkeit der bulgarischen Länder. [B. 363.]

Le 15 Septembre, 1886.

Nr. 9338. Bulgarien. 15. Sept. 1886.

Sire, || Les Représentants du peuple Bulgare qui adressent au Tout-Puissant d'ardentes prières pour les longs jours et la vie heureuse de votre Majesté, nous ont chargés du devoir agréable de vous offrir leurs compliments, ainsi que leurs sentiments de profond amour et de dévoûment. Ils sont persuadés qu'aprés tout ce qui s'est passé dans ces derniers temps en Bulgarie, la tension des rapports entre le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie et le Gouvernement de Bulgarie cessera, et que votre Majesté Impériale prendra de nouveau comme

auparavant, sous sa protection, le peuple Bulgare et sa cause nationale pour l'union des pays Bulgares et pour leur indépendance. Nr. 9338. Bulgarien. 15.Sept.1886.

Nr. 9339. **ENGLAND.** — Geschäftsträger in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland hat bei Freycinet ein gemeinsames Vorgehen der Mächte in der bulgarischen Angelegenheit zur Aufrechterhaltung des Friedens angeregt, Freycinet nur in allgemeinen Ausdrücken geantwortet. [B. 337.]

Paris, September 15, 1886.

My Lord, || M. de Freycinet told me to-day, that he had received a few days previously a communication from the Russian Government in very general terms on the subject of Bulgaria. It was to the effect, that the Imperial Government were of opinion that the Governments of the Powers should combine their efforts so that the settlement of affairs in Bulgaria would insure the maintenance of peace in the Balkans. || M. de Freycinet did not tell me the exact text of the communication, which he answered in similarly general terms, to the effect that France desired the tranquillity of Bulgaria and would gladly co-operate to that end. || He did not know if this communication was of the nature of a Circular to the Russian Agents to the Great Powers, but he knew that a similar communication had been received by one at least of the Great Powers. His Excellency said the attitude of the French Government was merely one of observation on this question of Bulgaria. || I have, &c.

Edwin H. Egerton.

Nr. 9339. England. 15.Sept.1886.

Nr. 9340. **BULGARIEN.** — Antwortadresse der Sobranje auf die Botschaft der Regenten bei Eröffnung der Session. [B. 362.]

(Translation.)

Messieurs les Régents, || Les Représentants du peuple appelés en Session Extraordinaire dans les temps actuels si graves pour la patrie, considèrent comme un devoir impérieux de déclarer que l'infâme coup d'État du 9 Août, oeuvre d'une poignée d'individus mal intentionnés, émut et indigna le peuple Bulgare tout entier et l'obligea de se lever comme un seul homme pour défendre l'honneur, l'indépendance de la Couronne de Bulgarie, rétablir l'ordre légal, et en même temps exiger du Gouvernement la punition exemplaire des auteurs de ce coup de main criminel.

Nr. 9340. Bulgarien. 16.Sept.1886.

Messieurs les Régents, || Le peuple Bulgare ne trouve point de mots pour exprimer son admiration pour l'abnégation et le patriotisme de Son Altesse le Prince Alexander Ier qui, en vue de garantir l'independance, la liberté et

Nr. 9340. Bulgarien. 16.Sept.1886.

les droits de notre État et de rétablir les bonnes relations entre le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie et le Gouvernement Bulgare, a noblement renoncé au Trône Bulgare. Nous, les Représentans du peuple, avons le ferme espoir que, après cet immense sacrifice, ces bonnes relations seront pleinement rétablies.

Messieurs les Régents, || Nous sommes profondément convaincus que tous les citoyens Bulgares, pénétrés du grand danger qui menace notre patrie, se grouperont autour du Gouvernement et lui donneront l'aide et le soutien nécessaires pour sauvegarder l'ordre, la paix et la sécurité intérieure, de telle façon que notre État sorte intact de la crise actuelle. || La Représentation Nationale vous exprime sa cordiale reconnaissance, à vous, Messieurs les Régents, ainsi qu'au Gouvernement pour les mesures qui ont été prises en vue d'assurer la paix et la tranquillité dans le pays, et la convocation dans un bref délai de la Grande Assemblée Nationale qui, conformément à la Constitution, devra élire un Prince au Trône vacant de Bulgarie.

Messieurs les Régents, || L'Assemblée Nationale examinera avec l'attention nécessaire et votera les Projets de Loi et propositions présentés par le Gouvernement en qui, il nous est agréable de le déclarer, nous avons pleine foi: nous espérons que, par son énergie, sa sagesse et sa prévoyance, il saura sauvegarder et défendre les intérêts et les droits de la patrie. || Vive la Bulgarie!

Nr. 9341. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Russland giebt die Entsendung eines Specialbevollmächtigten nach Bulgarien auf; General Kaulbars wird die russische Vertretung in Sophia in derselben Weise führen, wie die Vertreter der übrigen Mächte. [B. 335.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, September 16, 1886, 6·49 P.M.

Nr. 9341. England. 16.Sept.1886.

I am informed by M. de Giers, that the Russian Government have given up the idea of sending a Special Commissioner to Bulgaria, as likely to be misunderstood and to lead to complications. General Kaulbars, now Military Attaché at Vienna, has, his Excellency says, been ordered to proceed to Sophia, where he will take charge of the Agency and Consulate-General on the same footing as the other agents and Consuls-General.

Nr. 9342. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Aeusserungen Kaulbars' über seine Aufgabe in Bulgarien. [B. 340.]

Vienna, September 17, 1886.

Nr. 9342. England. 17.Sept.1886.

My Lord, || General Kaulbars, whom I met at the railway-station this morning on my accompanying His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge on

his departure for Gmunden, informed me, that he had the orders of the Emperor to impress upon all Bulgarians the necessity of their maintaining public order and tranquillity if they wished to avoid an occupation. || The General further, said that it was His Imperial Majesty's earnest wish that things should be arranged quietly, but that if civil strife arose it was impossible to say what measures it might be necessary to take to meet the emergency. || General Kaulbars was proceeding to the country to take leave of his family, and on his return to Vienna in two or three days will immediately start for Sophia. || I have, &c. A. Paget.

Nr. 9342. England. 17. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9343. **BULGARIEN.** — Dankestelegramm von 200 Sobranjemitgliedern an den Fürsten Alexander. [B. 364.]

(Translation.)

The national Representatives, in celebrating the historic day of the 6th (18th) September*), pray to God, that the union which was proclaimed that day may be lasting, and offer their congratulations to your Highness as one of the first heroes of that day. May God grant, that the people may see you Sovereign of United Bulgaria, and may your Highness live long for the honour and glory of the United Fatherland. (Signed by about 200 Deputies.)

Nr. 9343. Bulgarien. 18. Sept. 1886.

Nr. 9344. **RUSSLAND.** — Artikel des „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg" vom 6/18. September, an Earl Iddesleigh an diesem Tage von Sir Morier übersandt. [B. 357.]

On lit dans le même Journal (le Messager officiel) la communication suivante:—

Nr. 9344. Russland. 18. Sept. 1886.

"A la suite des relations très tendues qui existaient dans ces derniers temps entre la Russie et le Gouvernement du Prince Alexandre, le poste d'Agent Diplomatique de Russie à Sophia était resté vacant. Les événements qui viennent de s'accomplir en Bulgarie exigeant la présence à Sophia d'un Représentant Russe ayant l'autorité voulue, la gérance temporaire de l'Agence Diplomatique dans cette ville vient d'être confiée à M. le Général-Major Baron Kaulbars, Agent Militaire à l'Ambassade de Vienne, qui a déjà été chargé à plusieurs reprises de missions dans les divers pays de la Péninsule des Balkans. Le Général-Major Baron Kaulbars aura à étudier en détail la situation des affaires en Bulgarie, et à assister par ses conseils les Bulgares pour les faire sortir de la crise que traverse leur pays."

On a lu hier aux "dernières dépêches" l'adresse à Sa Majesté l'Empereur votée par l'Assemblée réunie à Sophia. On trouvera aujourd'hui sous la même

*) Jahrestag der Erhebung in Philippopel 1885.

Nr. 9344. Russland. 18.Sept.1886.

rubrique la réponse que cette Assemblée a jugé utile de faire au Message de la Régence. Il serait difficile d'accorder ces deux documents entre eux. Nous nous garderons d'entreprendre cette tâche, et ne recherchons pas davantage les circonstances qui peuvent avoir donné lieu à vingt-quatre heures de distance à de pareils votes. Ce qu'il importe de retenir, c'est le décousu au milieu duquel se trouvent l'Assemblée de Sophia et ceux qui la guident ou sont censés le faire. On a lu plus haut une note du "Messager Officiel" sur la mission dont M. le Général Kaulbars est chargé. Si cette mission avait encore besoin d'être légitimée, elle le serait certainement par le désarroi dont témoignent les deux documents dont nous venons de parler. Espérons que M. Kaulbars, après avoir étudié la situation en Bulgarie, réussira par ses conseils à faire sortir ce pays de la crise qu'il traverse.

Nr. 9345. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in Constantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Russlands Antwort auf das türkische Circular. [B. 341.]

Therapia, September 19, 1886.

Nr. 9345. England. 19.Sept.1886.

My Lord, || In reply to your Lordship's telegraphic inquiry of yesterday's date, I have the honour to report, that Russia has replied verbally to the last Turkish Circular, to the effect that the Bulgarian Assembly should be strongly advised not to refuse to admit Prince Alexander's abdication and not to re-elect him. The Russian reply further states that, if the Bulgarian Assembly should re-elect another Prince, Russia will not interfere, nor will she occupy the country unless disturbances should take place in it and force her to do so. || I have telegraphed the substance of this despatch to your Lordship. || I have, &c. Edwd. Thornton.

Nr. 9346. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bulgarien hat Serbien um die Annahme Dr. Stranskys als ständigen Vertreters in Belgrad ersucht. [B. 365.]

(Extract.) Sophia, September 19, 1886.

Nr. 9346. England. 19.Sept.1886.

With reference to my despatch of the 14th instant, I have the honour to report, that the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed an official note to the Greek Agent, who temporarily represents Servia, to ask that Dr. Stransky might be received by the Servian Government as Bulgarian Agent at Belgrade. || I took this opportunity of informing M. Natchevitch of the language held to me by the King of Servia on my passage through Belgrade, viz., that before any Government holding office in Servia could consent to re-establish diplomatic relations, it would be necessary to settle the question

of Bregovo and the question of the function of the railways. || M. Natchevitch said, that he did not anticipate much difficulty on either of these points. The railway works were being proceeded with as fast as possible, and as regards Bregovo, he thought the matter might be satisfactorily arranged if it were done quietly, and without exciting too much public attention.

Nr. 9346. England. 19.Sept.1886.

Nr. 9347. **ITALIEN.** — Min. des Aus. an den Gesandten in Constantinopel. — Robilant hat dem türkischen Botschafter die Zweckmässigkeit eines Aufschubs der bulgarischen Fürstenwahl dargelegt. [Gr. 24.]

Roma, 19 settembre 1886.

Signor ministro. || In una mia recente conversazione con l'ambasciatore di Turchia, questi esponevami il desiderio della Sublime Porta che si procedesse, con la maggiore sollecitudine possibile, alla elezione del nuovo principe di Bulgaria; desiderio, codesto, che la Russia non dividerebbe, ed al quale anzi farebbe ostacolo. Risposi a Fotiades pascià che non parevami possibile che il nuovo principe fosse nominato così presto come sarebbe stato desiderio della Porta, non essendo ancora intervenuto fra le potenze alcuno scambio di idee. Soggiunsi che, a mio modo di vedere, il ritardo presentava almeno questo vantaggio che gli spiriti, in Bulgaria, avranno tempo di calmarsi. || Gradisca, ecc.

C. Robilant.

Nr. 9347. Italien. 19.Sept.1886.

Nr. 9348. **RUSSLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Begehrt Aufschub des Prozesses gegen die Verschwörer*). [Gr. 25.]

Sophia, 7/19 septembre 1886.

Monsieur le ministre, || Je tiens de source certaine que le gouvernement bulgare veut procéder sans délai au jugement des personnes qui ont participé au coup d'état du 9 août. || Je dois vous prévenir, monsieur le ministre, que la mise en jugement, en ce moment, de tout inculpé, soit militaire, soit civil, serait considérée par le gouvernement impérial comme un danger pour la sécurité et la tranquillité de la Bulgarie. || C'est pourquoi, monsieur le ministre, je crois de mon devoir d'adresser, par l'entremise de Votre Excellence, au gouvernement bulgare les recommandations les plus urgentes afin qu'il soit sursis au jugement des prévenus jusqu'à une époque où les passions seront entière-

Nr. 9348. Russland. 19.Sept.1886.

*) Bereits am 1. September hatte der deutsche Reichskanzler dem deutschen Vertreter in Sophia folgende Instruction gegeben: „Suchen Sie nach Möglichkeit zu hindern, dass Hinrichtungen stattfinden; die friedliche Erledigung der Krisis würde durch solche wesentlich erschwert werden." (Mitgetheilt von Bismarck im Reichstage am 13. Januar 1887.)

Nr. 9348. Russland. 19. Sept. 1886.

ment apaisées. || J'engage, en même temps, le gouvernement bulgare à me faire connaître le point précis où se trouve la procédure dans l'affaire en question. | Veuillez agréer, etc. A. Necludoff.

Nr. 9349. **BULGARIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter Russlands in Sophia. — Ist von der russischen Note und deren mündlicher Unterstützung durch die Vertreter Deutschlands und Oesterreichs befremdet; die Untersuchung gegen die Verschwörer steht erst in ihren Anfängen*). [Gr. 25.]

Sophia, 8/20 septembre 1886.

Nr. 9349. Bulgarien. 20. Sept. 1886.

Monsieur le gérant, || J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception de la note que Vous avez bien voulu m'adresser hier, le 7/19 septembre, à 9 heures du matin, et dans laquelle vous me dites que vous tenez de source certaine "que le gouvernement bulgare aurait l'intention de procéder sans délai au jugement des personnes qui ont participé au coup d'état du 9/21 août." Vous ajoutez que vous croyez de votre devoir "d'adresser, par mon entremise, au gouvernement bulgare les recommandations les plus urgentes afin qu'il soit sursis au jugement des prévenus jusqu'à une époque où les passions seront entièrement apaisées", parce que "la mise en jugement, en ce moment, de tout inculpé, soit militaire, soit civil, serait considérée par le gouvernement impérial de Russie comme un danger pour la sécurité et la tranquillité de la Bulgarie." | Le secrétaire de l'agence, qui m'a remis cette note, m'a déclaré en outre de votre part, monsieur le gérant, que vous attendiez une réponse satisfaisante dans le courant même de la journée; faute de quoi, vous vous verriez forcé de prendre les mesures qui vous auraient été ordonnées par le gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur. Il m'a de plus informé que la démarche que vous faisiez auprès du gouvernement bulgare sera appuyée par MM. les représentants d'Allemagne et d'Autriche-Hongrie à Sophia. Et en réalité, peu de temps après que votre note me fut remise, M. le baron de Thielmann, consul général d'Allemagne, m'a fait l'honneur de venir me voir au ministère, et m'a déclaré qu'il serait désirable de différer le jugement des fauteurs du coup d'état du 9/21 août, jusqu'à l'arrivée à Sophia de S. Exc. le général Kaulbars, le titulaire de l'agence diplomatique impériale de Russie en Bulgarie, c'est-à-dire à une dizaine de jours. Aujourd'hui, dans la matinée, M. de Burian, gérant

*) Der englische Vertreter berichtet nach London, dass Natschewitsch dem russischen Vertreter zuerst mündlich geantwortet, dann aber auf dessen Begehren die Antwort schriftlich gegeben habe, und fügt hinzu: „M. Natchevitch told me, that the release of the conspirators, far from securing the tranquillity of Bulgaria, would be likely to create a fresh danger for the State, and he has no doubt, that this was the real object of the note, which was a direct interference in the internal affairs of Bulgaria." [B. 342.]

l'agence impériale et royale d'Autriche-Hongrie, a fait auprès de moi une démarche analogue. Nr. 9349. Bulgarien. 20.Sept.1886.

Je me permettrai dès l'abord de vous avouer, monsieur le gérant, que le gouvernment bulgare a été vivement impressioné et péniblement affecté de cette communication. Il en a été d'autant plus affecté qu'elle avait été provoquée par de simples bruits qui auraient couru dans la ville. Le gouvernement bulgare craint beaucoup que, dans les circonstances actuelles, des démarches de cette nature ne donnent lieu à de fausses interprétations, et ne produisent des effets contraires au désir, si souvent manifesté par le gouvernement impérial, de voir les esprits calmés et les passions apaisées en Bulgarie; désir qui est, je vous prie d'en avoir l'assurance, monsieur le gérant, également celui du gouvernement bulgare. || Le jugement des prévenus n'aura pas lieu de sitôt; l'enquête est à peine commencée. Comme il y a beaucoup de personnes impliquées, directement ou indirectement, dans le coup d'état en question, et que ces personnes, qu'il est indispensable d'interroger, se trouvent en divers endroits éloignés les uns des autres, l'instruction n'en peut être terminée avec la célérité particulière des cours martiales; de telle sorte que le procès ne pourra, dans aucun cas, être ouvert avant l'arrivée à Sophia de S. Exc. le général Kaulbars.

En terminant, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire part, monsieur le gérant, que tous mes collègues sont toujours à la disposition de MM. les représentants des grandes puissances pour leur donner tous les renseignements dont ils peuvent avoir besoin, et je vous prie de bien vouloir être persuadé que ce serait, en particulier pour moi, un véritable plaisir, d'entretenir avec vous les relations les plus sincères, et de vous tenir au courant de tout ce qui peut vous intéresser à connaître. || Veuillez agréer, etc.

Natchovitch.

Nr. 9350. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Russland erklärt, der Zar habe nicht die Unabhängigkeit Bulgariens dem Fürsten Alexander gegenüber gewährleistet, sondern nur seine Mitwirkung zur Aufrechterhaltung der Ordnung zugesagt; Russland habe die Regentschaft nicht anerkannt. [B. 343.]

Foreign Office, September 20, 1886.

Sir, || The Russian Ambassador called at the Foreign Office to-day and made the following statement by desire of his Government: In the Act of Abdication of Prince Alexander the Prince had stated, that the Emperor had assured him that he would respect the independence and watch over the interests of Bulgaria. That statement was not exact. All that the Emperor had done was to direct the Russian Agents to act in concert with any Pro- Nr. 9350. England. 20.Sept.1886.

Nr. 9350. England. 20.Sept.1886. visional Government in Bulgaria which was able to maintain order and liberty. In answer to an inquiry as to whether the Russian Government had recognized the Regency, M. de Staal replied in the negative, and repeated the foregoing explanation. || I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9351. DEUTSCHLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Reichskanzler. — Seine Bemühungen um Aufschub der Hinrichtungen haben Erfolg gehabt. — [Mitgetheilt vom Fürsten Bismarck in der Reichstagssitzung vom 13. Januar 1887.]

Sofia, 20. September.

Nr. 9351. Deutschland. 20.Sept.1886. Ich habe die erforderlichen Schritte, um Hinrichtungen zu verhindern, gethan und günstige Aufnahme gefunden. Jedenfalls bis zur Ankunft des Generals Kaulbars wird nichts geschehen." Frhr. v. Thielmann.

Nr. 9352. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Nekljudoff hat die Annahme der bulgarischen Note abgelehnt; Natschewitsch wird Abänderungen in derselben vornehmen. [B. 358.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, September 21, 1886.

Nr. 9352. England. 21.Sept.1886. My Lord, || M. Natchevitch has sent a lengthy answer to the note addressed to him by the Acting Russian Agent to which I had the honour to refer in my telegram of the 19th. M. Nekludoff at first declined to receive this note; but he afterwards agreed to do so if certain modifications were made in it, and the passages omitted which referred to the effect which the note would have in exciting popular passions rather than calming them, and to the arrival of General Kaulbars. || M. Natchevitch in his reply alluded to the advice he had received from the German Agent, and also stated that on the following day the Acting Austrian Agent had given him similar advice. M. de Burian has told M. Natchevitch, that it is a mistake to suppose that he had supported M. Nekludoff's demand, and has requested his Excellency to omit all mention of his name in the note. || M. Natchevitch has agreed to make these modifications, and he will now reply in the sense of the verbal answer which he gave to M. Nekludoff, the substance of which I had the honour to report in my telegram above mentioned; but he will add, that it is impossible for the Bulgarian Government to interfere in the matter as the Bulgarian Tribunals are independent of the Executive Authority. || I have forwarded the above to Sir E. Thornton and Sir A. Paget. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9353. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Berlin an den Min. des Ausw. — Deutsche Erklärung zu dem bei der bulgarischen Regierung gethanen Schritte betreffs der event. Hinrichtung der Verschwörer. [B. 367.]

(Extract.) Berlin, September 22, 1886.

Nr. 9353. England. 22. Sept. 1886.

I have the honour to state, that Count Bismarck explained to me that the advice which Herr von Thielemann had been instructed to give to the Provisional Government at Sophia had certainly been given in consequence of a communication from the Russian Government, but that it referred only to executions, and not to trials of the conspirators. || In giving it, the German Government did not enter into the question of justice, but were actuated solely by political motives of grave import, involving the true interests of Bulgaria and the Balkan States as well as the peace of Europe. || Under present circumstances, a summary sentence or execution would undoubtedly provoke reprisals on the part of the opponents of the party now in power at Sophia; these reprisals might even be taken in other States of the Balkans, and European complications might ensue the consequences of which it would be impossible to foresee. || This was the nature of the advice which Herr von Saldern had been instructed to give when the counter-revolution took place and Prince Alexander returned to the Principality, and the same advice had now been given to the Provisional Ministry.

Nr. 9354. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — Geneigtheit und Bedingungen Serbiens für Herstellung der freundschaftlichen Beziehungen zu Bulgarien. [B. 360.]

(Telegraphic.) Belgrade, September 24, 1886.

Nr. 9354. England. 24. Sept. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that I called upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning, when, after some conversation as to the present state of affairs in Bulgaria, and during which I again advocated the Servian Government entering upon friendly relations with that Principality, his Excellency informed me that, in accordance with the decision of His Majesty the King and of a Council of Ministers, which was held yesterday, he was about to send a telegraphic message to Sophia through the Greek Chargé d'Affaires here, informing the Bulgarian Government that His Majesty's Government was ready to receive Dr. Stransky as Special Envoy to discuss certain points which, when satisfactorily settled, would admit of permanent diplomatic relations being re-established between the two countries. || M. Franassovitch said, that, if the Bulgarian Government inquired what those points were, he should reply that they consisted of the dispute with regard to territory at Bregova, of the construction of the stipulated line of railway

Nr. 9354. England. 24.Sept.1886. within a reasonable lapse of time, and with regard to which point his Excellency said the Servian Government would be very moderate ("très coulant"), and the acceptation of the principle that negotiations for a Commercial Treaty should be set on foot. || I informed your Lordship and Sir Frank Lascelles of the substance of this despatch to-day by telegraph. || I have, &c.

Hugh Wyndham.

Nr. 9355. DEUTSCHLAND. — Staatssekretär im Ausw. Amt Graf Bismarck an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Der Reichskanzler ist von den Erfolgen desselben befriedigt und fordert eine Bestätigung, dass er, der Vertreter sich nur im Rahmen seiner Instruction gehalten hat. [Mitgetheilt vom Fürsten Bismarck in der Reichstagssitzung vom 13. Januar 1887.]

Berlin, 25. September.

Nr. 9355. Deutschland. 25.Sept.1886. Aus Ihrem Telegramme vom 2. d. Mts. hat der Herr Reichskanzler mit Befriedigung ersehen, dass die Gefahr der Ausführung von Hinrichtungen beseitigt ist. Der Zweck der Ew. Hochwohlgeboren ertheilten Instruktionen ist damit vollkommen erreicht, da dieselben von Anfang nur die Verhütung von Executionen im Auge hatten. Nach Ihren bisher hier vorliegenden Meldungen darf ich annehmen, dass Sie sich bei Ihren Aeusserungen innerhalb dieses Rahmens gehalten haben. Um den falschen Mittheilungen in auswärtigen und fortschrittlichen Blättern, dass Sie anders und schärfer aufgetreten wären, entgegentreten zu können, bitte ich Ew. Hochwohlgeboren, mir ausdrücklich schriftlich zu bestätigen, dass Sie sich in Ihren Aussprachen genau in den Grenzen der Ihnen ertheilten Weisungen gehalten und demgemäss darauf beschränkt haben, von Hinrichtungen abzurathen.

Nr. 9356. ENGLAND. — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Beschlüsse des Gerichts in Burgas betreffs der Freilassung der angeklagten Verschwörer und deren Ablehnung durch den Kommandanten. [B. 395.]

Bourgas, September 25, 1886.

Nr. 9356. England. 25.Sept.1886. Sir, || I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that the local Criminal Tribunal has decided in favour of the release, on a bail to the amount of 4000 levas (francs) each, of the prisoners accused of conspiring against the life of His Highness Prince Alexander, with the exception, however, of the two Montenegrins, whom it is proposed to place under the surveillance of the Russian Vice-Consul, who will be held responsible for their safe keeping. || This decision having been presented for the ratification and approval of the Commandant, Captain von Mach, that officer refused to sanction it, at the same

time telegraphing for instructions to Sophia. In reply, he was informed, that the matter would be duly considered by the Council of Ministers. || I have, &c. Nr. 9356. England. 25.Sept.1886.

W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9357. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Mündlich gestellte Forderungen Kaulbars' in Sophia; ablehnende Haltung der bulgarischen Regierung; Kaulbars betrachtet diese nur als Parteivertretung. [B. 369.]

Sophia, September 26, 1886.

My Lord, || General Kaulbars arrived at Sophia yesterday evening. He has informed M. Natchevitch in conversation that the following three demands will be made by the Russian Government:— Nr. 9357. England. 26.Sept.1886.

1. The immediate raising of the state of siege;
2. The immediate release of all persons implicated in the conspiracy; and
3. The postponement of the elections for the Great National Assembly.

M. Natchevitch has informed me, that, although the Bulgarian Government are willing to enter into discussion with General Kaulbars on these points, they have made up their minds not to give way on any of them. In any case the state of siege will be raised a week before the date of the elections for the Great National Assembly, which it has been decided shall take place on the 10th of next month. || It would appear, from a conversation he has had with the Acting Austrian Agent, that General Kaulbars affects to consider that the demands he has put forward do not amount to an interference in the internal affairs of the country, as he has not made any demand for a change in the Government. His argument for the release of the accused persons is based on the ground, that as the present Government is merely a party Government, it has not the right of judging members of a party politically opposed to it. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9358. RUSSLAND. — Ausserordentlicher Bevollmächtigter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Russland erklärt eine Einberufung der Sobranje für ungesetzlich. [B. 394.]

(Translation.) Sophia, le 15 (27) Septembre, 1886.

M. le Ministre, || Pour compléter ce que je vous ai dit dans notre entretien d'hier, et d'ordre du Gouvernement Impérial, j'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer aujourd'hui que, dans la pensée de ce Gouvernement, la convocation de la Grande Assemblée Nationale dans l'état actuel du pays *ne peut pas être* Nr. 9358. Russland. 27.Sept.1886.

Nr. 9358. Russland. 27.Sept.1886.

reconnue pour légale, et que les décisions d'une pareille Assemblée n'auraient, à nos yeux, *aucune* signification. || En vue de cela, je conseille au Gouvernement Bulgare:—

1. D'ajourner les élections à une date la plus éloignée possible.

2. Pour faire sortir le pays de l'état de surexcitation dans lequel il se trouve actuellement, et pour donner possibilité que les élections puissent avoir lieu sans pression et dans des conditions plus normales, de lever immédiatement l'état de siège et de mettre en liberté en même temps tous ceux qui se trouvent arrêtés par suite des événements du 9 Août.

Veuillez, &c. Baron Kaulbars.

Nr. 9359. ITALIEN. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Gründe der bulgarischen Regierung für die Ablehnung der Kaulbars'schen Forderungen. [Gr. 29.]

Sofia, 28 settembre 1886. Ric. il 6 ottobre.

Nr. 9359. Italien. 28.Sept.1886.

Signor ministro, || Ricevetti dal ministro degli affari esteri la traduzione della nota del generale Kaulbars, argomento del mio rapporto di ieri. Mi affretto trasmetterla a Vostra Eccellenza*). Il signor Natchovitch, questa mattina, si è recato da me e da tutti gli agenti delle grandi potenze, meno naturalmente il russo, per parlarci della comunicazione ricevuta ieri dal generale Kaulbars, dicendoci che aveva missione da tutto il gabinetto di farci presenti i motivi che impediscono il governo della reggenza di accogliere i desiderii della Russia.

Il ritardo della convocazione della grande assemblea non aveva giustificazione, poichè il candidato presentato della Russia verrebbe molto probabilmente eletto dall'assemblea, anche se convocata in brevissimo lasso di tempo. Lo stesso generale ne è convinto; l'ha detto ed assicurato a varie persone. || D'altronde, sotto il punto di vista legale, l'articolo 151 della costituzione di Tirnovo stabilisce in modo assoluto la convocazione dell'assemblea entro un mese; diffatti l'articolo prescrive quanto segue: || "Art. 151. Dans le cas où le Prince meurt sans héritier, le conseil des ministres prend le gouvernement du pays et dans le délai d'un mois il convoque la grande assemblée nationale pour l'élection du nouveau Prince." || Non essendo previsto il caso di abdicazione, devonsi applicare le norme di questo paragrafo. || Il ritardo delle elezioni, invece di calmare gli animi, può produrre appunto l'effetto contrario, cioè eccitare di nuovo le passioni.

Circa poi al mettere in libertà gli imputati civili e militari che presero parte alla rivolta del 21 agosto, la stessa costituzione vi si oppone coll'articolo 13 così concepito: || "Le pouvoir judiciaire appartient, dans toute son étendue, aux personnes et aux autorités investies des pouvoirs judiciaires qui

*) Nr. 9358.

fonctionnent au nom du Prince. Les rapports du Prince envers les autorités judiciaires sont déterminés par des règlements spéciaux."

Nr. 9359. Italien. 28. Sept. 1886.

Questi sono, in riassunto, i principii ai quali s'informerà la risposta del governo all'agenzia russa; risposta che verrà spedita fra tre giorni circa, come mi asserì il signor Natchovitch. || La reggenza bulgara sarebbe felice se le grandi potenze volessero raccomandare a Pietroburgo, in massima, il modo di vedere di questo gabinetto*). || Ho risposto al ministro che porterei a conoscenza di Vostra Eccellenza la comunicazione che precede, senza prendere, ben inteso, nemmeno a mio nome personale, alcun impegno di ottenere una risposta qualsiasi dal regio governo. || Gradisca, ecc.

Gerbaix de Sonnaz.

Nr. 9360. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Meinungsaustausch mit dem russischen Botschafter in London über die Lage in Bulgarien und das Verhalten General Kaulbars.' [B. 373.]

Foreign Office, September 29, 1886.

Sir, || The Russian Ambassador called on me yesterday, and after a few unimportant remarks his Excellency mentioned the mission of General Kaulbars to Sophia, and said that he had been sent to give friendly counsels with a view to the preservation of peace in Bulgaria. || I said, that what I had seen reported of his proceedings seemed to partake of the character of an intervention in the internal administration of the country. || M. de Staal denied, that that was a correct description; his Excellency said, that General Kaulbars was only giving advice, and that there was no desire on the part of Russia to interfere by except giving such advice as might obviate the danger of disturbances. || His Excellency spoke of the difficulty in which the present Bulgarian Government was placed, owing to its party character. || I said it seemed to be a Government quite capable of carrying on the administration of the country,

Nr. 9360. England. 29. Sept. 1886.

*) Der englische Vertreter in Sophia berichtet an Earl Iddesleigh über den Entwurf der bulgarischen Antwort an Kaulbars dasselbe, ausserdem aber, dass die bulgarische Regierung bereit sei, der Forderung der Aufhebung des Belagerungszustandes nachzugeben, und fährt dann fort: M. Natchevich trusts, that the Great Powers will approve and support this reply, and he also hopes that they will use their influence to prevent any demands being addressed to the Bulgarian Government with which it is impossible for them to comply without violating the Constitution. || I am informed, that, although the Bulgarians have expressed their readiness to elect a candidate imposed by Russia, General Kaulbars has given it to be understood that, unless his conditions are complied with, Russia will not put forward a candidate and that the Assembly will not be able to elect any Prince at all. He also said, that the re-election of Prince Alexander would certainly be opposed by Russia. [B. 371.] — Earl Iddesleigh antwortete sogleich Lascelles betreffs des Entwurfs der bulgarischen Antwortnote: This reply has the concurrence of Her Majesty's Government, and I have to request you to so inform the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs. [B. 372.]

Nr. 9360. England. 29. Sept. 1886.

but that no doubt the establishment of a settled state of things as soon as possible was desirable. || I therefore regretted to observe, that General Kaulbars had urged the postponement of the elections. || M. de Staal observed, that it was advisable to allow time for the restoration of tranquillity in the minds of the people. || I said I must call his Excellency's particular attention to the embarrassment caused by the continuance of a state of things which he had described as provisional, and by which, therefore, the Government was weakened and was exposed to risks which we did not wish to contemplate, while, at the same time, this state of things was prolonged by the delay of the elections. || M. de Staal then spoke in a very general way about the difficulty of finding a candidate for the position of Prince of Bulgaria. He also asked whether Her Majesty's Government were taking any steps to bring about an understanding between Roumania, Servia and Bulgaria. || I replied in the negative, though, I added, we desired to see those States in cordial amity with one another, and I had so expressed myself to the Governments of those countries. || I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9361. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über weitere durch das Verhalten des Generals Kaulbars hervorgerufene Misshelligkeiten mit der bulgarischen Regierung. [B. 375.]

(Telegram.) Sophia, September 29, 1886.

Nr. 9361. England. 29. Sept. 1886.

My Lord, || General Kaulbars has distributed among the people of Sophia a large number of copies of a Circular which he has addressed to the Russian Consular officers in Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia. Reuter's agent has telegraphed a summary of this document. || Some of the persons in the service of the Russian Agency met with very rough treatment while they were distributing this document, and General Kaulbars has made this the subject of an official note which he has addressed to M. Natchevitch. The latter observed to the Secretary who delivered the note, that steps would be taken to punish any illegal acts; but he added, that it was not astonishing that this proceeding on the part of the Russian Agency should have called forth some expression of indignation. Far from appeasing popular passion such a document was likely to arouse them, and even the Government themselves had reason to feel aggrieved at some of the statements it contained, which were not true. || I am informed, that the Bulgarians have the intention to reply to this Circular by a document which will deal with each point separately; but they are convinced that all hope of coming to a reconciliation with Russia must now be abandoned. || I have, &c. Frank Lascelles.

Nr. 9362. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter bei den Grossmächten, bei der Pforte, in Bukarest und Sophia. — Lädt die Grossmächte ein, die bulgarische Regierung durch ihre Rathschläge in der gegenwärtigen Krisis zu unterstützen*). [B. 376.]

(Telegraphic.) Foreign Office, September 30, 1886, 5·30 P.M.

Nr 9362. England. 30. Sept. 1886.

The appeal which the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs has made to the Great Powers parties to the Treaty of Berlin, to the provisions of which Bulgaria owes her autonomy, has drawn the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the embarrassing state of things now existing in that country. || Without entering into the details of the occurrences which have led to the present condition of affairs, it is clear that those who are now charged with the administration of the country have been placed in a position of serious difficulty through no fault of their own, and are on every ground entitled to be treated with the greatest consideration and forbearance. || Such treatment is not only due to the members of the Regency and the Ministry, but also to the country itself, which has so recently passed through a period of extreme agitation, and which requires the restoration of confidence. || The embarrassment of the situation is largely due to the facts that the election of a successor to the late Ruler of Bulgaria has not yet taken place, while, at the same time, not only must the ordinary business of administration be carried on, but some questions of the gravest importance must be dealt with, such as that of the trial of persons charged with complicity in the forcible abduction of Prince Alexander. || The Bulgarian Foreign Minister points out, that the Government cannot comply with some of the demands addressed to it by the Russian Agent and Consul-General without violating the Constitution; and it is evident that the infringement of the Constitution at a crisis such as the present is a serious matter, and ought not to be resorted to without careful consideration and a proved necessity. || It appears to Her Majesty's Government, that it is very desirable that the elections should take place as early as may be, so as to shorten the time during which the Administration is weakened by the vacancy of the Throne. But, whether this be so or not, they are strongly of opinion that the Great Powers should give their earliest attention to the condition of the country, and should offer to the Bulgarian Government such advice as they may think calculated to meet the exigencies of the case.

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*) Earl Iddesleigh ermächtigt Tags darauf den Vertreter in Sophia, die bulgarische Regierung vertraulich von dem Inhalte dieses Rundschreibens in Kenntniss zu setzen. [B. 380.]

Nr. 9363. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Meinungsaustausch zwischen dem englischen Botschafter und Herrn von Giers über die Lage in Bulgarien. [B. 378.]

(Telegram.) St. Petersburgh, September 30, 1886.

Nr. 9363. England. 30.Sept.1886.

My Lord, || I had the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram of the 29th instant this morning, and called on M. de Giers in the afternoon to acquaint his Excellency with the communication made to Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Sophia by the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the answer returned by Her Majesty's Government. || His Excellency said, that General Kaulbars had not informed him that he had delivered a note to the Bulgarian Government. The Russian Government had left him great latitude. He had acquainted them with the general tenour of his language, but had been very chary in the sending of details. || I said, that it seemed to me that the advice given as to raising the state of siege was wise, and that I could understand arguments being found that would at least be plausible for some delay in the elections; but that I was totally unable to comprehend was General Kaulbars having asked for the liberation of the persons inculpated in the revolution of the 21st August. || His Excellency said, that it was not the intention of the Russian Government that the proceedings against the incriminated persons should be quashed ("non pas que les procès soient cassés"), but that sufficient delay should be allowed to intervene, so that no one should be tried and condemned *ab irato*, an absolutely necessary condition in the present excited state of men's minds. He said he would telegraph to General Kaulbars, and inquire exactly what was the state of the case. || I then, as regarded the delay in the elections, urged on his Excellency the arguments used by your Lordship in your conversation with M. de Staal, saying that Her Majesty's Government were animated by the same sentiments as his Excellency said actuated himself, viz., the desire of returning as soon as possible to a settled and normal state of things; that you deemed this impossible until the National Assembly had met, and that you therefore deprecated the postponement of the elections, advised by General Kaulbars. || His Excellency said the one object the Russian Government had at heart was to see order and legality restored in Bulgaria. The present state of things was wholly illegal and unconstitutional, and he could not admit the plea of illegality put forward by the Bulgarian Regency, they themselves being an illegal body, and stamping everything they did with this illegality. A return to a state of order could only be brought about by an Assembly freely elected, and representing not one, but every party in the country. If the elections were made now, under a state of siege, and the system of terror which had been established by the Regency, Prince Alexander's Parthian arrow, as his Excellency described it, the result would be an Assembly composed of the nominees of the present illegal Government, one and all the bitter

enemies of Russia. Such a packed Assembly would not be a true representative of the country, and would not be able to restore calm and order, but exactly the reverse. It could not, therefore, be the interest of anyone who desired the restoration of a peaceful state of things that such an Assembly should meet. The state of siege must be raised, and the country be allowed to breathe freely, and use its limbs, not for a few days only before the actual day of election, but long enough to organize itself, and start clear from the terrorism now being exercised under the shelter of martial law. The friends of Bulgaria could not help her better than by co-operating with Russia to secure a free and unbiassed Assembly of this kind. || I had the honour to transmit the substance of the above to your Lordship in my telegram of this day's date. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9363. England. 30. Sept. 1886.

R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9364. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — Serbien hat einen diplomatischen Vertreter nach Sophia vorläufig in vertraulicher Mission entsandt*). [B. 381.]

(Telegram.) Belgrade, October 1, 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that M. Franassovitch told me to-day, in reply to my inquiries as to how matters were proceeding between Servia and Bulgaria for the renewal of friendly relations, that the Bulgarian Government had transmitted their thanks to him for his message referred to in my telegram of the 24th ultimo, expressing his willingness to receive Dr. Stransky, but had at the same time begged the Servian Government to send a special Delegate to Sophia. || M. Franassovitch said, that the King's Government had at first hesitated to do this, but that they had finally acceded to M. Natchevitch's request. I then asked his Excellency whether M. Todorovitch, who I had heard had gone to Bulgaria, had been selected for this mission, and he replied that this was so, that this gentleman was treating at Sophia in a strictly private and confidential manner the questions pending between the two Governments, and that he (M. Franassovitch) expected that in about fifteen days a favourable settlement of those points would be effected. || I reported the substance of the above to your Lordship and to Sir Frank Lascelles to-day by telegraph. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9364. England. 1. Oct. 1886

Hugh Wyndham.

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*) Iddesleigh beauftragte hierauf Mr. Wyndham, der serbischen Regierung für dieses Entgegenkommen gegen Bulgarien im Namen Englands zu danken. [B. 391.]

Nr. 9365. ENGLAND. — Viceconsul in Burgas an den Botschafter in Constantinopel. — Meldet die Freilassung der verhafteten Verschwörer gegen Kaution. [B. 422.]

Bourgas, October 1, 1886.

Nr. 9365. England. 1. Oct. 1886.

Sir, || With reference to my despatch of the 25th September, I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that the persons accused of conspiring against the life of His Highness Prince Alexander were, with the exception of the two Montenegrins, for whom, however, the Russian Vice-Consul offers to go bail, set at liberty yesterday, the 30th ultimo, in pursuance of an order received by telegraph from the Minister of War at Sophia. || As mentioned in my previous despatch, each of these persons has provided bail to the amount of 4000 fr.; to this the only exception is M. Kollaroff, who, being unable to produce security for this amount, will be placed under police supervision. || I have, &c.

W. S. Richards.

Nr. 9366. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Kalnoky stimmt den englischen Auseinandersetzungen im Principe zu, lehnt aber Rathschläge an Bulgarien betreffs bestimmter Punkte ab und bezieht sich betreffs der österreichischen Politik auf Tisza's Parlamentsrede. [B. 383.]

(Telegram.) Vienna, October 2, 1886.

Nr. 9366. England. 2. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || In compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I have to-day communicated to Count Kálnoky a copy of your telegram of the 30th September. || His Excellency, while agreeing in the general principles therein expressed, is, nevertheless, disinclined to give advice to the Bulgarian Government on any specific point, and referred to M. Tisza's recent speech as being a full and clear enunciation of Austrian policy*), which he believed would have an effect at Sophia as well as elsewhere. || Count Kálnoky went on to say that, in his opinion, things were tending towards a compromise between the Bulgarian Government and General Kaulbars, and that this might possibly be marred by the other Powers supporting the Bulgarian Government in opposition to Russian demands. || I have, &c.

A. Paget.

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*) Ehe Tisza die im ungarischen Abgeordnetenhause eingebrachten Interpellationen beantwortete, war Kalnoky zu einer Konferenz mit ihm in Pest eingetroffen über den Inhalt dieser Antwort. Bericht Mr. Baringtons aus Pest an Iddesleigh. [B. 386.]

Nr. 9367. **BULGARIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den russischen ausserordentl. Bevollmächtigten in Sophia. — Die bulgarische Regierung wird alle Rathschläge des Generals befolgen, soweit sie nicht gegen die bestehenden Gesetze sind. [B. 421; Gr. 33.]

(Traduction.) Sophia, le 20 Septembre, 1886.

Nr. 9367. Bulgarien. 20. Sept./2. Oct. 1886.

Excellence, || J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception à la note de votre Excellence du 15 de ce mois, note qui a été sans retard communiquée à MM. les Régents et au Conseil des Ministres. || En réponse, j'ai l'honneur de déclarer à votre Excellence que le Ministère, animé du vif désir de suivre les attention la Gouvernement Impérial de Russie, a considéré avec la plus sérieuse conseils du teneur de la note susmentionnée, et a décidé de se conformer à tous les conseils que vous avez bien voulu lui donner, pour autant qu'ils ne contreviennent point aux lois en vigueur. || Veuillez, &c.

Natchevitch.

Nr. 9368. **RUSSLAND.** — Ausserordentlicher Bevollmächtigter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Verlangt direkte Antwort auf seine Forderungen. [B. 421; Gr. 33.]

(Traduction.) Sophia, le 20 Septembre, 1886.

Nr. 9368. Russland. 20. Sept./2. Oct. 1886.

M. le Ministre, || J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir votre note du 20 Septembre, 1886. A mon plus vif regret, elle ne donne pas une réponse directe aux questions posées dans ma note du 15 Septembre, année courante. || J'aurai l'honneur d'attendre, de votre part, dans le courant de la journée de demain, une déclaration plus exacte et plus définie. || Veuillez, &c.

Baron Kaulbars.

Nr. 9369. **DEUTSCHLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Reichskanzler. — Bestätigt, dass er sich darauf beschränkt habe, der bulgarischen Regierung lediglich den Aufschub der Hinrichtungen anzurathen. — [Mitgetheilt vom Fürsten Bismarck in der Reichstagssitzung vom 13. Januar 1887.]

Sofia, 3. October.

Nr. 9369. Deutschland. 3. Oct. 1886

Auf den hohen Erlass vom 25. v. M. beehre ich mich zu erwidern, dass ich mich genau im Rahmen meiner Instructionen gehalten habe. Irgendwelche weiteren Anforderungen habe ich der bulgarischen Regierung nicht gestellt, sondern mich in anderen Fragen in Uebereinstimmung mit meinem österreichischen Collegen gänzlich zurückgehalten. Die Hinausziehung des Verfahrens

Nr. 9369. Deutschland. 3. Oct. 1886.

ist uns lediglich als Mittel zum Zweck nützlich erschienen, denn wenn jetzt Verurtheilungen stattgefunden hätten, so wäre bei der Aufregung des Offizierscorps für das Weitere nicht zu bürgen gewesen. Zu Drohungen und zu scharfer Sprache hätte ich, selbst wenn ich Auftrag gehabt hätte, nicht einmal Gelegenheit gehabt. Denn Herr Karaweloff ging ohne weiteres auf meine Anregung ein. Dem Minister des Auswärtigen gegenüber habe ich lediglich mein Gespräch mit Herrn Karaweloff wiederholt. Herr Stambuloff sagte mir drei Tage später spontan, dass er von jeher für Amnestirungen gewesen sei. Mit anderen Bulgaren habe ich über die Sache überhaupt nicht gesprochen. von Thielmann.

Nr. 9370. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den russischen ausserordentlichen Bevollmächtigten in Sophia. — Die bulgarische Regierung vermag nur ihre in der letzten Note gegebenen Versicherungen zu wiederholen. [B. 421; Gr. 433.]

(Traduction.) Sophia, le 21 Septembre, 1886.

Nr. 9370. Bulgarien. 21. Sept./ 3. Oct. 1886.

Excellence, || J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que j'ai reçu la note que vous avez bien voulu m'écrire le 20 Septembre courant pour me demander une réponse directe aux questions posées dans votre note du 15 Septembre.

Comme cette dernière note de votre Excellence ne contenait point de questions, mais seulement des conseils que vous avez eu la bonté d'adresser au Gouvernement Bulgare, le Conseil des Ministres m'a chargé de vous transmettre de nouveau les assurances que je vous ai données par ma note responsive du 20 Septembre. || En vous répétant que le Gouvernement Bulgare est décidé à se conformer à tous les conseils que vous avez bien voulu lui donner, en tant qu'ils sont d'accord avec les lois en vigueur dans le pays, je prie votre Excellence d'agréer, &c. Natchevitch.

Nr. 9371. ENGLAND. — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Vereitelung der Verbreitung der zwölf neuen Punkte Kaulbars' unter der Bevölkerung; neue Aufwiegelungen russischer Agenten. [B. 443.]

Philippopoli, October 3, 1886.

Nr. 9371. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || The Russian Consulate here is endeavouring, in accordance with orders received from General Kaulbars to that effect, to circulate among the population of the province printed copies of the twelve demands recently made by the latter on the Government at Sophia. As this action has for its manifest object to provoke riotous demonstrations among the population, the local authorities have opposed and prevented it by every means in their power, and with success hitherto. || It is known, that Russian agents are endeavouring to sap the loyalty of the junior officers of the Bulgarian army, especially those quartered in the sea-ports, whence escape is easy in the case of non-

success, and to persuade them to pronounce against the existing Government. The plot is known, I am told, to chief the military authorities at Sophia, who have taken measures to have those engaged in it carefully watched. || In view of the persistent efforts made of late by Russia to provoke disturbance in this province, it may be her intention to force on by this means a Turkish occupation, which would give her the desired pretext for occupying in the same manner Bulgaria with her own troops. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9371. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

Henry M. Jones.

Nr. 9372. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die bulgarische Regierung beharrt auf Einberufung der Sobranje. [B. 384.]

(Telegraphic. Extract.) Sophia, October 3, 1886.

Yesterday afternoon the Bulgarian Government addressed a note to General Kaulbars, in which they state that they will gladly follow any advice which Russia may give them if it is possible for them to do so without violating the laws of the country. General Kaulbars at once replied by a note, in which he stated that he could not consider this as an answer to his previous note, and requested to be furnished to-day with a direct reply. || M. Natchevitch has informed me, that the Bulgarian Government have decided that the elections shall be held on the 10th instant, as had already been settled, and that the Great National Assembly should be convoked as soon afterwards as possible. It was important, he said, to confirm the legality of the Regency, and also to decide whether M. Karaveloff, who is now one of the three Regents, M. Tsanow, the former Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Major Nikiforoff, the former Minister of War, who are all said to be deeply implicated in the conspiracy against Prince Alexander, should be placed on their trial. || The state of siege was raised three days ago. || With regard to the prisoners, it has been decided to advise the judicial authorities to release them on bail, if this can be done.

Nr. 9372. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9373. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über das Auftreten und den Misserfolg General Kaulbars' in einer Volksversammlung in Sophia. [B. 389.]

Sophia, October 3, 1886.

My Lord, || This morning a large meeting was held here for the purpose of informing the people of Sophia of the language which General Kaulbars had held to a deputation which had waited on him two days ago. At first the proceedings were perfectly orderly; but the editor of the former Zankoffist newspaper, who is a Russian subject, raised the cry of "Down with

Nr. 9373. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9373. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

Bulgaria," and was very severely handled. || General Kaulbars himself appeared on the scene shortly afterwards, and began making a speech which at first was well received, and cheers were given for the Emperor of Russia; but when he proceeded to speak of the wishes of the Emperor for the release of the prisoners and the postponement of the elections, he was continually interrupted by cries for the independence and freedom of Bulgaria, and he had to close his speech abruptly amidst strong expressions of dissent mingled with hisses. || A resolution was then passed to the effect, that the Government should resist the Russian demands, and the meeting proceeded to M. Radoslavoff's house, where they made an enthusiastic demonstration, and informed him of what had taken place. || General Kaulbars has told my Austrian and German colleagues, that he intends to leave Sophia to-morrow for a tour through Bulgaria, having received orders from the Emperor to ascertain the real sentiments of the people. He admitted, that the feeling at Sophia was hostile to him; but this he attributed to the fact that the majority overawed the minority by a system of terror, and he professed to consider that the feeling for Russia was stronger than he expected to find it, and that the reception he met with to-day was in reality a Russian triumph. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9374. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über Gespräche mit General Kaulbars über dessen Sendung und die Lage in Bulgarien. [B. 417.]

Sophia, October 3, 1886.

Nr. 9374. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || On the 27th instant General Kaulbars, who had arrived at Sophia two days previously, called upon me and had a long conversation with me upon the present state of affairs. || He said the Czar had instructed him to arrange matters peaceably, and he told me that he had that day addressed a note to M. Natchevitch with regard to the three points which he had already mentioned in conversation, viz., the raising of the state of siege, the release of the prisoners and the postponement of the elections. He said, that on these points the Emperor had made up his mind, and therefore the Bulgarians must agree to them. || I observed, that I understood that the Bulgarian Government were prepared to raise the state of siege, but that the other two points would be contrary to the Constitution, and that as the strict observance of the laws and Constitution was the only basis of the authority of the present Government, I did not see how they could accept them. I also suggested, that a prolongation of the present state of things might have the effect of increasing popular excitement rather than allaying it. || The General maintained, that this would not be the case, and that it was absolutely necessary to give the country time to reflect maturely after the state of siege had been raised upon the election of a new Prince, and to become convinced that the return of

Prince Alexander, or the election of any of his brothers, was impossible. With regard to the release of the prisoners, General Kaulbars at first argued that the Government, being a party Government, had not the right of judging members of another party. But on my observing that I thought he did the conspirators too much honour in raising them to the rank of a political party, he changed his ground, and argued that it would be unjust to keep these men in prison so long as many others who were known to be equally guilty were still at liberty, and that if the Government refused to release those who had been arrested, he would be justified in demanding the imprisonment of several other persons. To this I replied, that it did not appear to me that the fact of some criminals being at large was a sufficient reason for releasing those who were in prison.

He then dwelt upon the inconsistencies of the Bulgarians, who one day sent a telegram expressing their devotion to the Czar, and the next day addressed a telegram to Prince Alexander expressing their sympathy with His Highness, and who, while complaining of the want of discipline of the army, committed an act unheard of in military history, by burning the colours of a regiment. He could understand, that the colours should have been taken away from the troops, who had proved themselves unworthy of bearing them, and placed in a Cathedral, but no one with a spark of military sentiment would have ever thought of burning a flag. || He spoke at some length about Prince Alexander, for whose military talents he expressed a high admiration, and said that were he to give a course of military lectures he would quote His Highness' campaign against Servia as an example to be followed; but His Highness' duplicity and double-dealing, of which a fresh proof was furnished by the letter which His Highness had requested him to convey to the Czar from Pirot, had made it impossible for His Majesty to pardon him, and from that moment His Highness' fate was sealed.

During the whole of this conversation the one argument upon which General Kaulbars seemed to rely for inducing the Bulgarians to agree to his terms was "l'Empereur le veut", and he expressed the greatest surprise that the telegram which His Majesty had sent to the Regents in answer to their congratulations on St. Alexander's Day should not have been published throughout the country. || On my observing that I understood that M. Nekludoff had objected to its publication, General Kaulbars said that that gentleman had only objected to its being published in the official journal, and as it was evidently intended for the whole nation, and not merely for the persons of the three Regents, it was the evident duty of the latter to have made it known as widely as possible.

On the following day I returned the General's visit, and had a further conversation with him. He told me, that he had received a visit from the Regents, and had expressed his astonishment that he should be met by objections that his demands were unconstitutional, when two of the Regents

Nr. 9374. England. 3. Oct. 1886.

themselves did not possess the constitutional qualifications for the post they held. || I observed there could be no doubt on that point. They had, however, been acknowledged by the Chamber, and I did not see how they could do otherwise than abide strictly by the laws and Constitution, which were the sole basis of their authority. || General Kaulbars again alluded to his demand for the postponement of the elections. He said, that he did not ask that the Great National Assembly should be put off to a later date, but only that the elections should take place immediately before its convocation, and he asked me whether I saw any constitutional objection to this course, adding that if it were not taken the Czar would not recognize the legality of the Assembly or any of its acts. He also said, that each of the Ministers with whom he had spoken, including M. Natchevitch, had expressed themselves individually in favour of this course, although apparently they intended to oppose it collectively. || I said, that the constitutional position of the Bulgarian Government on this question did not appear to me to be quite clear. The precise case had not been foreseen in the Constitution, and therefore it might be held that the Article on which the Bulgarian Government relied was not applicable.

The General begged me to express this opinion to the Ministers, and I said I was ready to do so if they should consult me. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9375. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über die neuerdings von General Kaulbars aufgestellten 12 Punkte und über dessen unstatthaftes Verhalten. [B. 419.]

(Extract.)

Sophia, October 4, 1886.

Nr. 9375. England. 4. Oct. 1886.

The proceedings of General Kaulbars since his arrival at Sophia on the 25th ultimo seem scarcely in accordance with the assurances given by M. de Giers to Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburgh, which your Lordship did me the honour to communicate to me. || Even before he arrived at Sophia, General Kaulbars had publicly stated to the persons who went to meet him that he would demand the immediate raising of the state of siege, the release of the prisoners and the postponement of the elections; and on his arrival he communicated these demands to the Bulgarian Government as the wishes of the Emperor, and subsequently put them in the form of advice, which he embodied in an official note. Before, however, waiting for a reply to this note, the General addressed a Circular to the Russian Consular officers, which he caused to be circulated through the town by persons in the service of the Russian Agency. This Circular contained the following twelve points: —

1. The Czar, having only in view the welfare of Bulgaria, hopes that in the present crisis, which affects both the present and future of Bulgaria, the nation will turn with full confidence towards Russia.

2. The time for words is passed. Russia expects deeds which will prove the confidence of the Bulgarians and will justify the support which the Czar will give them, both as regards their internal and external affairs.

3. Russia has no thought of enslaving Bulgaria, but, on the contrary, desires the development of the country. It is only by leaning with confidence on her elder brother that Bulgaria can arrive at a solution of the crisis.

4. There are some facts which throw doubt on this confidence on the part of the Bulgarians, such, for instance, as the non-publication of the telegram which the Czar deigned to send to the Regents in reply to the congratulations addressed to His Majesty on St. Alexander's Day.

5. The burning of the colours of the mutinous regiment produced a painful impression. When troops show themselves unworthy, the colours are taken away from them and placed in a cathedral; but the burning of a flag is unheard of in the military history of the world, and can only produce a deleterious effect on the cadets in whose presence it was performed.

6. If it is true, that the decoration of St. George was burnt with the flag, the Bulgarian Government have been guilty of a flagrant infraction of international law.

7. The fact, that the National Assembly addressed a congratulatory telegram to the Czar, and on the following day sent a sympathetic telegram to the Prince of Battenberg, is ridiculously illogical, and casts a deplorable shadow on the Deputies.

8. Neither the Prince of Battenberg nor any of his brothers can ever return to Bulgaria.

9. The elections for the Great National Assembly must be held with perfect freedom, and therefore—

10. The state of siege must be raised, the prisoners released and the elections postponed for two months, in order that the popular passion should have time to calm, and that the people should be able maturely to consider the decisions at which they should arrive.

11. The release of the prisoners is demanded because the present Government, which represents a party, has not the right of judging members of another party.

12. All true patriots are advised to forget the past, and look forward to the future with full confidence in Russia.

This Circular was distributed in Sophia on the 28th ultimo, although it bore the date of the 14th (26th). General Kaulbars can scarcely have been ignorant, that the publication of such a document, which was a direct attack upon the Government to which he was accredited as Diplomatic Representative, would increase rather than diminish the popular excitement which he professes to be anxious to calm. || Some days ago M. Natchevitch suggested to General Kaulbars, that a very good impression would be produced by the publication of a telegram which the General had received from M. de Giers to the effect that the Russian Government desired that the Bulgarian Constitution should be respected. General Kaulbars, however, declined and would not even let M. Natchevitch see the telegram. He, however, showed it to

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Mgr. Clement, who expressed his surprise that such an important expression of opinion on the part of the Russian Government should not have been made public. The General replied, that he wished to publish it, but that the Ministers objected.

The presence of General Kaulbars at the meeting yesterday, which formed the subject of my telegram of the 3rd, may be taken as a proof of his personal courage and his disregard of diplomatic usage. It is, I presume, the first time that the Representative of a foreign Power has harangued a popular meeting in a sense hostile to the Government to which he was accredited, and the question might arise whether such conduct would be covered by the diplomatic immunities to which foreign Representatives are entitled. The same question might also be put with regard to the tour on which General Kaulbars started to day, and which is evidently undertaken for the purpose of influencing the forthcoming elections. || General Kaulbars has expressed himself as satisfied with the reception he met with yesterday, which, he says, proves that there is a stronger Russian party in Sophia than he expected. He admitted, however, yesterday, that the majority of the people of Sophia were hostile, and it is curious to note the progressive steps by which this admission has been arrived at. As long as Prince Alexander was in Bulgaria His Highness was said to be the only obstacle to a complete reconciliation between Bulgaria and Russia. After His Highness' departure it was discovered, that there were some evil-disposed persons among the Regents and Ministers who prevented the reconciliation being complete, but that the people were entirely devoted to Russia. Now it is admitted that the capital is hostile, but that the other parts of the country are sound. || The Government have taken every precaution to prevent disturbances at the places through which General Kaulbars intends to pass, and M. Natchevitch informed M. Nekludoff, who called on him this afternoon, to impress upon him the necessity of preventing any scandals during the General's journey, that the Government would do everything in their power, but that they had information that some of their opponents intended to get up demonstrations against the General, and perhaps even to attack him, in order to throw discredit on the Government, and that he could not but regret that the General had undertaken the journey in the present excited state of the country.

Nr. 9376. **ITALIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. — Antwortet auf das englische Circular, hält die sofortige Neuwahl eines bulgarischen Fürsten für unmöglich. [Gr. 31.]

Roma, 3 ottobre 1886.

Nr. 9376. Italien. 3. Oct. 1886.

Signor incaricato d'affari, || Sir J. Savile Lumley mi ha comunicato, ieri, un telegramma direttogli dal *Foreign office* il 30 settembre. || In quel tele-

gramma si accenna la difficile posizione del governo bulgaro, per la quale esso merita di esser trattato con la massima considerazione e tolleranza. Gli stessi riguardi sono dovuti al paese, mentre esce da un periodo di estrema agitazione. Il governo inglese attribuisce gli imbarazzi della situazione al fatto che l'elezione del Principe non ha ancora avuto luogo, mentre tale elezione sarebbe urgente, non solo perchè si ristabilisca il regolare andamento dell'amministrazione, ma altresì, e più, per risolvere qualche grave questione pendente. Il telegramma conchiude essere molto da desiderare che le elezioni avvengano al più presto, per diminuire la durata della vacanza del trono, causa d'indebolimento per l'amministrazione della Bulgaria; e, in ogni modo, essere dovere delle potenze di aiutare il governo bulgaro dei loro consigli. || Non ho celato a sir J. Savile Lumley che il nostro modo di vedere differisce alquanto da quello del governo britannico. Ho anzi detto schiettamente all'ambasciatore della Regina che avevamo dato istruzione, a Sofia, al nostro agente, di consigliare il governo bulgaro a temporeggiare, per dar tempo agli spiriti di calmarsi. Soggiunsi che una elezione immediata del Principe non è possibile, agli occhi nostri, anche per la considerazione che le potenze non si sono messe d'accordo sul candidato. || Gradisca, ecc.

Per il Ministro R. Cappelli.

Nr. 9376. Italien. 3. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9377. **RUSSLAND.** — Ausserordentlicher Bevollmächtigter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Erneuert dringend die Forderung auf Freilassung aller verhafteten Officiere und auf Verschiebung der Wahlen. [B. 421; Gr. 34.]

(Traduction.) Sophia, le 22 Septembre, 1886 (v. s.)

M. le Ministre, || J'ai reçu votre note du 22 Septembre, 1886. A mon plus vif regret, je vois que les conseils du Gouvernement Impérial et exprimés par moi dans la note du 15 Septembre, 1886, n'ont pas été adoptés par les chefs du Gouvernement Bulgare dans la mesure qui serait indispensable pour la pacification du pays et le rétablissement de l'orde légal. || Quittant Sophia pour quelque temps je puis seulement vous répéter, de la manière la plus urgente, que le Gouvernement Impérial désire la mise en liberté immédiate de tous les officiers exilés, et l'ajournement des élections jusqu'en Novembre. || La responsabilité des conséquences qui pourraient surgir par suite du non-accomplissement des désirs susmentionnés du Gouvernement Impérial retombe entièrement sur les chefs actuels du Gouvernement Bulgare. || Veuillez, &c.

Baron Kaulbars.

Nr. 9377. Russland. 22. Sept./4. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9378. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St.-Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über eine Unterredung mit Giers über den englischen Vorschlag einer gemeinsamen Behandlung der bulgarischen Angelegenheiten durch die Grossmächte und über die von Kaulbars geforderte Freilassung der verhafteten bulgarischen Verschwörer. [B. 390.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, October 4, 1886.

Nr. 9378. England. 4. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || I received your Lordship's telegram of the 30th ultimo; but on proceeding with it to the Foreign Department, I learnt, that M. de Giers had gone to Peterhof to see the Emperor, who had arrived there the preceding evening. I accordingly sent a translation of the telegram to his Excellency in a private letter, adding that I would call to-day to hear what he might wish to say in reference to it. On doing so his Excellency informed me, that he had taken the Emperor's orders on the subject, and that the reply was at that very moment being cyphered to M. de Staal. He then read it out to me. It was a long document; but as it must long since be in your Lordship's possession, I need not advert to it more particularly here.

Calling his Excellency's particular attention to the last sentence of your Lordship's telegram, to the effect, that Her Majesty's Government are strongly of opinion that the Great Powers should give their earliest attention to the condition of Bulgaria, and should offer to the Bulgarian Government such advice as they may think calculated to meet the exigencies of the case, I observed that this opportunity might be a good one for Russia, which had assumed a leading part in dealing with Bulgarian affairs, to lay before the Powers her programme of pacification, and solicit their co-operation in carrying it out. Such a scheme, if assented to by the Powers, who sincerely desired the welfare of Bulgaria and the return of a normal state of things there, and severally offered in the way of friendly advice to the Government *de facto*, could hardly fail to be accepted. || His Excellency said he would be only too glad of such co-operations if it resulted in putting down the existing reign of terror and the proceedings of the Regency, which he compared to those of a "Comité de Salut Public." Persons were being daily put into prison for no reason except that of being inimical to the Government and the party in power; and, he added, to cite an extreme case, on such pretexts as being known to frequent the Russian Consulate.

Referring to our conversation respecting the liberation of the persons inculpated in the revolution, and again urging the deplorable effect produced by this apparent condonation of their crime, I gathered from the reply of M. de Giers that he had telegraphed on the subject, and had been informed that what was asked for was their liberation on bail, and pending the time when they could be judged by legally constituted Tribunals, which could only be

after the restoration of a legal order of things. But his Excellency was not very explicit. I am, nevertheless, inclined to believe, that some moderating action on this point has been taken since my conversation of last Thursday. I urged most strongly, that some means should be taken to make it known to the public that General Kaulbars was only asking for the liberation of the prisoners on bail, for it would then appear quite clearly that the Russian Government were not asking that the proceedings should be quashed. || That telegraphic communication had taken place with General Kaulbars since our last conversation, and that the result had been to reassure M. de Giers as to the doings of his lieutenant, seems to me clear from his Excellency telling me that he had received a telegram from the General, saying he was most scrupulously respecting every international right and every Article of the Treaty of Berlin. || I forwarded to your Lordship the substance of the above im my telegram No. 156 of this day's date. || I have, &c. R. B. D. Morier.

Nr. 9378. England. 4. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9379. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Berichtet über die Antwort Russlands auf das englische Rundschreiben und ein Gespräch mit dem russischen Botschafter über dieselbe. [B. 392.]

(Extract.) Foreign Office, October 5, 1886.

Nr. 9379. England. 5. Oct. 1886.

The Russian Ambassador called upon me this afternoon, and read to me a telegram which he had received from his Government in reply to my Circular telegram on the state of affairs in Bulgaria, and the demands addressed to the Government of that country by General Kaulbars. The telegram was to the same effect as other statements emanating from the Russian Government. It explained, that General Kaulbars' representations to the Bulgarian Government were only in the nature of advice. It spoke of the special duty and the moral obligation incumbent on Russia as having called Bulgaria into existence, and stated that the country was in a condition of excitement which might lead to disastrous results, and that time was needed in order to allow the minds of the population to calm down.

I observed, that General Kaulbars might be instructed to give advice only, but that his manner of doing so seemed very strange, and that his counsels partook more of the nature of commands. I thought such language was calculated not to appease, but to excite. || M. de Staal said he had not received any reports of General Kaulbars' language beyond what had appeared in the newspapers, and did not express an opinion on the point. || I then took exception to what his Excellency had said as to Russia having called Bulgaria into existence. I said it was not Russia alone who had constituted the Principality, but the Treaty of Berlin, to which all the Powers were parties, and that it was to

Nr. 9379. England. 5. Oct. 1886.

the Powers collectively, and not to any single one of them, that Bulgaria should look for advice and support. || M. de Staal said, that on paper this might be correct, but that, as a matter of fact, the work of liberating Bulgaria had been effected by the sword of Russia. || I said, that I could not admit the distinction which his Excellency endeavoured to draw between the Treaty itself and the action which had preceded it. I could look only to the actual document.

I went on to speak of the circumstances which had led to the present state of affairs, and said that the Bulgarian people, who, as a body, were quite guiltless of any participation in them, had a moral claim to much consideration at the hands of the Great Powers. I thought the Bulgarian Government were justified in objecting to any attempt to infringe or interfere with the regular working of their Constitution. || M. de Staal said, that the Constitution had been already infringed, and that it was after all a question between the Bulgarian Constitution, which was the smaller matter, and the Treaty of Berlin, which was of greater importance. Russia, his Excellency added, had in Conference advocated the maintenance of the Treaty when other Powers had abandoned it. || I said, that we had now to look to the present and future rather than to the past, that I thought it would be right that the Powers generally should be consulted if there were need, but that it seemed to me that the Bulgarians, if left alone, would be found capable of administering their own Government. The convocation of the Assembly, as soon as the elections were completed, would place matters on a more satisfactory footing, and these latter should not be delayed. || M. de Staal said, that the country was "terrorized" by the present Government, and that was why time was required to allow public agitation to subside, and we then went over the same circle of argument as to the effect of General Kaulbars' methods of "apaisement." In the course of his remarks M. de Staal said: "When General Kaulbars returns." || I asked if the General's mission was temporary. His Excellency said he supposed the General would make a report.

Nr. 9380. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Verdachtsgründe gegen Karaveloff betreffs seiner Theilnahme an der Verschwörung, die Nothwendigkeit seines Rücktritts und daher der schleunigen Einberufung der Sobranje. [B. 420.]

Sophia, October 5, 1886.

Nr. 9380. England. 5. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || I regret to hear, that the inquiry into the conspiracy of the 21st August, which is not yet concluded, has resulted so far in confirming the suspicions as to M. Karaveloff's complicity in the plot, and the evidence against him appears to be so strong that it is almost impossible that he should continue to occupy his post in the Regency. The question of placing him

and his former colleagues, M. Tsanow and Major Nikiforoff, on their trial will be submitted to the Great National Assembly as soon as it meets, and it will also be asked to appoint his successor and confirm the Regency as then completed. It becomes, therefore, a matter of the utmost importance for the Bulgarian Government, that the Great National Assembly should meet as soon as possible. || Whether M. Karaveloff is guilty or not, there can be no doubt that he has completely lost all his influence in the country, and even those who were formerly his most devoted adherents have now turned against him, and they argue that even if he was not indirectly implicated it is impossible that in his position of Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior he should not have had some warning of the plot, and that he proved himself incapable by not taking measures to render its execution impossible. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9380. England. 5. Oct. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9381. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — General Kaulbars hat von dem Kommandanten von Rustschuck direkt die Freilassung der verhafteten Officiere gefordert. [B. 396.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, October 5, 1886.

My Lord, || M. Natchevitch informed me this morning, that the Minister of War had received a communication from the officer commanding the garrison at Rustchuk, stating that he had received through the Russian Consul in that town a letter from General Kaulbars, demanding that the officers imprisoned there should be at once set a liberty, and stating that he would be held responsible for the consequences which a refusal*) to obey this demand would entail. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9381. England. 5. Oct. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9382. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Macht auf eine offenbare Ueberschreitung seiner Instructionen durch General Kaulbars aufmerksam. [B. 398.]

Foreign Office, October 6, 1886.

Sir, || In your telegram of the 4th instant you state, that when you represented to M. de Giers the unfortunate effect produced by the demand for the liberation of persons implicated in the plot in Bulgaria, his Excellency explained that General Kaulbars had only asked for their release on bail. ||

Nr. 9382. England. 6. Oct. 1886.

*) Wie der Botschafter in Rom an Earl Iddesleigh berichtete [B. 39], hatte Kaulbars hier das Wort „rebellion“ gebraucht, der Kommandant aber nur geantwortet, er werde an die Regenten über diese Mittheilung berichten.

Nr. 9382. England. 6. Oct. 1886

Her Majesty's Government have received a French translation of the note addressed to the Bulgarian Government by General Kaulbars. In it he demands the liberation of the prisoners, and no mention is made of release on bail; Her Majesty's Government therefore conclude, in view of M. de Giers' statement to your Excellency to which I have referred, that General Kaulbars exceeded the instructions which he had received from the Russian Government.

I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9383. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in London. — Darlegung seines Standpunktes zur bulgarischen Frage. [Gr. 32.]

Roma, 8 ottobre 1886.

Nr. 9383. Italien. 8. Oct. 1886.

Signor incaricato d'affari, || Ieri, in occasione del mio ricevimento ebdomadario, l'ambasciatore d'Inghilterra ritornò meco sull'argomento delle istruzioni impartite all'agente britannico a Sofia. || Sir J. Lumley mostravasi meco preoccupato di quello stato di cose, in verità assai minaccioso per le sue conseguenze anche prossime. Di ciò con lui convenivo; aggiungendo essere, secondo me, necessità assoluta che, a scongiurare gravi pericoli, tutte le potenze che realmente e sinceramente desiderano la conservazione della pace, e quindi vogliono allontanati gli incidenti che condurrebbero a turbarla, procedano compatte in stretto accordo. || A questo proposito credevo, però, dover far osservare al mio interlocutore che, sebbene la situazione sia da me ravvisata assai grave, non ritengo impossibile l'uscirne pacificamente, ove la si voglia esaminare con la necessaria imparzialità e pacatezza, dal punto di vista della lettera non solo, ma anche dello spirito del trattato di Berlino. || Non conviene infatti dissimularsi che le potenze, riunitesi a congresso nel 1878, mentre credettero limitare notevolmente le conseguenze delle vittorie russe, non intesero però intieramente escludere una particolare influonza della Russia in Bulgaria, che a quelle vittorie deve la sua esistenza politica; molti fatti che sarebbe inutile qui ripetere confermano questo concetto. Senonchè la nobile e ben spiegabile ambizione del valoroso principe Alessandro I, di emancipare completamente da ogni straniera ingerenza il popolo che gli aveva affidato le sue sorti, mutò quella condizione di cose, e ne fece quasi dimenticare l'esistenza.

La Russia, ferita nel suo orgoglio nazionale, mostra oggi di non volersi più tener paga del ristabilimento dello stato di cose che seguì immediatamente il congresso di Berlino; per premunirsi contro la ripetizione di ciò ch'essa ritiene offesa fatta ai suoi diritti, accenna, cogli atti del generale Kaulbars, assumere non solo un'alta tutela sulla Bulgaria, ma bensì un effettivo protettorato, il che sarebbe in recisa opposizione col trattato di Berlino. Or bene, come sempre succede in casi simili, l'eccesso chiama l'eccesso, e l'opinione pubblica in alcuni paesi pretenderebbe ora che il gabinetto di Pietroburgo avesse a contenersi, rispetto alle cose di Bulgaria, quasi come se si trattasse di

regione affatto estranea alla sua sfera d'interessi. Tra quei due estremi, io dissi, si potrà trovare una via di mezzo, che indubbiamente non impedirà il rinascimento di attriti e di complicazioni per l'avvenire, ma che intanto potrebbe fornire un espediente onde uscire dalla presente crisi acuta, e prolungare così il mantenimento della pace, con grande vantaggio di tutti. Il porgere opportuni consigli alle potenze più direttamente interessate, sarebbe, a parer mio, nobilissimo compito. Si darebbe così tempo al naturale svolgimento di eventi che condurrebbero le cose a quella maturazione che dovrebbe un giorno assicurare ai popoli balcanici, che già sono in possesso della loro indipendenza, quella piena autonomia a cui a buon diritto mostrano aspirare. L'affrettar troppo il passo per giungere a questa meta, potrebbe riuscir letale per l'esistenza stessa dei giovani Stati balcanici, anche se si volesse non tener conto della pace generale. Nr. 9383. Italien. 8. Oct. 1886.

Evidentemente non intendo, per conto mio, mettere innanzi proposte di sorta nel senso suespresso, perchè l'Italia è bensì grandemente interessata alla conservazione della pace ed al mantenimento dello *statu quo* in Oriente, ma non ha interessi politici diretti in giuoco negli affari speciali della Bulgaria. Persuaso, però, che nessun bene potrebbe venire all'Europa, e neppure agli Stati balcanici, da una conflagrazione che facesse scendere in campo le principali potenze, sarò sempre lieto di associarmi a quei gabinetti che mostreranno voler esercitare la loro azione nell'esclusivo intento della conservazione della pace, sulla base del mantenimento del trattato di Berlino. In tale senso io L'autorizzo ad esprimersi col ministro degli affari esteri, ove egli abbia a tenerle parola della conversazione da me avuta con sir J. S. Lumley, accentuando però il concetto che, per ottenere il desiderato risultamento, è pure, a parer mio, indispensabile che le potenze, le quali non ammettono che un nuovo irreparabile strappo sia fatto al trattato di Berlino, si mantengano strettamente unite. || Gradisca, ecc. C. Robilant.

Nr. 9384. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Kalnokys Vorstellungen bei Russland über das Vorgehen des Generals Kaulbars*). [B. 400.]

Vienna, October 8, 1886.

My Lord, || With reference to Sir Frank Lascelles' telegram of the 5th instant, I have the honour to state, that I called this morning on Count Kálnoky, who informed me in reply to my inquiries that he had received intelligence of the demand addressed by General Kaulbars to the Commander of the Rustchuk garrison, but not in an official form on which he could base Nr. 9384 England. 8. Oct. 1886.

*) Bei Uebersendung dieser Mittheilung an Sir Morier [B. 401] benachrichtigt Earl Iddesleigh denselben, dass er neuerdings gegen den russischen Botschafter im Sinne der Beobachtungen Kalnokys sich ausgesprochen habe.

Nr. 9384. England. 8. Oct. 1886. a representation to the Russian Government, and his Excellency added that he did not think it would be advisable to separate this incident from the rest of General Kaulbars' proceedings. || Count Kálnoky, however, expressed his opinion, that the attention of the Russian Government might be called to these proceedings in a friendly and confidential manner, and told me that he had already spoken to the Russian Ambassador and written to St. Petersburgh respecting them in this sense, pointing out that they are calculated to produce agitation and to lead to a situation of great danger, while being at variance with the professed objects for which General Kaulbars was sent to Bulgaria, namely, the pacification and establishment of order in the country. || Count Kálnoky concluded his remarks by alluding to the reported intention of the Bulgarian Government to address the Powers on the above subject, but added that he had not as yet received any such communication. || I have, &c.

A. Paget.

Nr. 9385. **ENGLAND.** — Generalconsul in Philippopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über eine von den russischen Consuln in Bulgarien unterstützte Verschwörung gegen die bulgarische Regierung. [B. 402.]

(Telegraphic.) Philippopoli, October 8, 1886, 12·35 P.M.

Nr. 9385. England. 8. Oct. 1886. A widespread and carefully organized plot to raise general insurrection against the Government on the 17th instant, in order to precipitate Russian occupation, which had been promised for some date not later than 8 November, has just been discovered here. Leaders are chiefly Macedonians, some of whom have been caught. Varna, Rustchuk, Tirnova and Philippopoli were the centres of the conspiracy. || Every one who took part was to receive 90*l.* monthly, and for this purpose Russian Consuls at Rustchuk, Sophia, Philippopoli have furnished money. Arms, and also horses, have been provided. St. George's, in the Balkans, was to be the general rendezvous*).

Nr. 9386. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Nur etwa zwanzig noch verhafteten Officieren wird der Process gemacht werden. [B. 403.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, October 9, 1886.

Nr. 9386. England. 9. Oct. 1886. My Lord, || I have the honour to report, that twenty officers are still in prison with whose trial it is intended to proceed. Some of the others will undergo a disciplinary punishment, and some have been called upon to send

*) Tags darauf theilte Natschewitsch dem englischen Vertreter in Sophia vertraulich die Aussagen eines in Eski-Sagra verhafteten Verdächtigen mit, welche dem Bericht des Generalconsuls Jones vollständig entsprechen [B. 406.]

in their resignations, which have been accepted. Major Nikiforoff, the late Minister of War, is among the latter. || I have, &c. Nr. 9386. England. 9. Oct. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9387. **BULGARIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Mächte in Sophia. — Warnt die Ausländer vor Einmischung in die Wahlen. [B. 445; Gr. 35.]

Sophia, le 27 Septembre, 1886 (v. s.)

M. l'Agent, || Sur la demande de M. le Président du Conseil, Ministre de l'Intérieur, j'ai l'honneur de vous prier de vouloir bien, par l'entremise des Chancelleries Consulaires, inviter vos ressortissants établis en Bulgarie à ne point se mêler dans les élections pour la grande Assemblée Nationale, lesquelles doivent avoir lieu le 28 Septembre (v. s.) de 9 heures du matin à 5 heures du soir. || Mon collègue ajoute que les sujets étrangers qui s'immisceraient dans les élections seront expulsés de la Principauté. || Veuillez, &c. Nr. 9387. Bulgarien. 27. Sept./ 9. Oct. 1886.

G. D. Natchevitch.

Nr. 9388. **RUSSLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an die Vertreter der Grossmächte daselbst. — Zeigt die Zurückweisung der bulgarischen Note an. [Gr. 35; 445.]

Sophia, le 27 Septembre (9 Octobre), 1886.

Monsieur l'Agent, || Vous avez dû prendre connaissance de la note Circulaire que vient de m'adresser le Ministre Bulgare des Affaires Étrangères à la date de ce jour. || Considérant le ton comminatoire de cette note comme tout à fait inconvenant vis-à-vis du Représentative de la Russie et contenu comme contraire aux Traités et Capitulations en vigueur, j'ai cru de mon devoir, M. l'Agent, de retourner au Ministre des Affaires Étrangères sa note en l'accompagnant de la pièce que j'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer ci-près en copie*). || Veuillez agréer, &c. Nr. 9388. Russland. 27. Sept./ 9. Oct. 1886.

A. Necludow.

Nr. 9389. **RUSSLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Sendet die bulgarische Note zurück und bricht bis zur Rückkehr des Generals Kaulbars allen Schriftwechsel mit der bulgarischen Regierung ab. [Gr. 35; B. 445.]

Le 27 Septembre, 1886.

Monsieur le ministre, || Je vous retourne ci-près l'exemplaire de la note circulaire que vous avez jugé nécessaire de m'adresser à la date de ce 27 Sep- Nr. 9389. Russland. 27. Sept./ 9. Oct. 1886.

*) Nr. 9389.

Nr. 9389. Russland. 27. Sept./ 9. Oct. 1886.

tembre. || Je crois de mon devoir de vous prévenir que les Représentants du Gouvernement Impérial de Russie en Bulgarie sauront bien défendre leurs ressortissants contre tout attentat illégal de l'Administration, comme ils ont toujours su maintenir la conduite des sujets Russes résidant en Bulgarie dans les limites de la plus stricte légalité. || J'ai l'honneur de vous prévenir, M. le Ministre, que jusqu'à réception des instructions du Général Kaulbars relatives à l'incident que vous venez de soulever, tout échange de pièces écrites entre l'Agence Impériale Diplomatique de Russie et les gouvernants Bulgares est interrompu. || Copie de ma présente note va être communiquée aux Représentants des Puissances à Sophia. || Veuillez agréer, &c.

A. Necludow.

Nr. 9390. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über die Misserfolge Kaulbars' auf seiner Rundreise durch Bulgarien. [B. 447.]

Sophia, October 9, 1886.

Nr. 9390. England. 9. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || From the accounts which the Bulgarian Government have received of General Kaulbars' journey through Bulgaria, it would seem that the opinion of the provinces was not more favourable to Russia than that of the capital. At Orchanié, his first halting-place, he was personally well received and cheers were given for the Emperor of Russia; but when the General began speaking of the three points which he had pressed on the Government, he was met with expressions of confidence in the Government and of determination to maintain the liberty of Bulgaria. At Wratza, which was considered the stronghold of the Zankoffist party, the General was met by about thirty persons, and was, I hear, much disappointed at his reception. He subsequently visited Plevna and Sistova, where he was received much in the same manner. From the latter place he proceeded down the Danube in a small boat to Rustchuk, where he found no one to receive him except the Russian Vice-Consul and his cavass. It appears, also, that on his summoning the Prefect of Rustchuk, the latter replied that it was for the General to pay him the first visit, which he should be happy to return, and that the officers who had also been summoned declined to call upon the General. I am informed, however, in spite of the coldness of the reception he has met with, General Kaulbars has expressed himself as well satisfied with his journey as far as Sistova, and has telegraphed from there to the Czar that he has met with an enthusiastic reception at all the places he has passed through*). || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

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*) Zu dem englischen Viceconsul in Warna, der über Kaulbars' Empfang daselbst am 13. Octbr. berichtet, dass er war „the same as at Rustchuk and at Shumla, that is

Nr. 9391. **ENGLAND.** — Botschafter in St. Petersburg an den Min. des Ausw. — Berichtet über neue Nachrichten des „Journal de St.-Pétersbourg“ aus Bulgarien. [B. 408.]

(Telegraphic.) St. Petersburgh, October 10, 1886, 7 P.M.

Nr. 9391. England. 10. Oct. 1886

It is stated in a special telegram from Giurgevo, published in "Journal de St.-Pétersbourg", that at a great meeting at Rustchuk M. Stojanoff read a telegram from Prince Alexander, in which it was announced that, if elected by Assembly, he would return to Bulgaria. The telegram further stated, that British Consul advised the meeting to resist the exigencies of Russia*).

Nr. 9392. **ENGLAND.** — Interimistischer Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Min. des Ausw. — Der Sultan nimmt Sir W. White als Botschafter an. [B. 409.]

(Telegraphic.) Constantinople, October 10, 1886, 12·30 P.M.

Nr. 9392. England. 10. Oct. 1886.

I have just been informed by a letter from the Grand Vizier, that the Sultan accepts the appointment of Sir W. White as Ambassador at Constantinople.

Nr. 9393. **RUSSLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Kaulbars lässt der bulgarischen Regierung einen energischen Tadel für Inhalt und Form ihres Zirkulars aussprechen. [Gr. 36; B. 463.]

Sophia, le 28 Septembre (10 Octobre) 1886.

Nr. 9393. Russland. 28. Sept./ 10. Oct. 1886.

Par ordre du Général Baron de Kaulbars, je renoue l'échange des pièces écrites entre l'Agence Impériale Diplomatique de Russie et le Ministère Bulgare des Affaires Étrangères pour vous communiquer le blâme énergique exprimé par le Général au sujet du contenu et de la forme de la note Circulaire dont vous avez bien voulu me faire parvenir un exemplaire à la date d'hier. Copie de la présente est communiquée à MM. les Représentants des Grandes Puissances**). || Veuillez, agréer &c. Necludow.

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to say, very unsympathetic," äusserte sich der General ebenfalls sehr befriedigt über die in Warna erzielten Resultate „as he had convinced himself that the vast majority of the real nation were in favour of a complete understanding with Russia, and were opposed to the present Regency. [B. 470.]

*) Unter Uebersendung dieses Telegrammes an den Vertreter in Sophia fordert Earl Iddesleigh diesen auf, ihn zu informiren, ob die Nachricht über die Anwesenheit und Sprache des englischen Konsuls auf dem Meeting in Rustschuk begründet sei. [B. 416.]

**) Der italienische Vertreter beschloss hierauf mit dem österreichischen und englischen, einfach den Empfang der russischen Mittheilung ohne irgend welche Bemerkung zu bescheinigen. [Gr. 36.]

Nr. 9394. **RUSSLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Erklärt die Wahlen für gesetzwidrig und ungültig. [Gr. 36; B. 463.]

Sophia, le 28 Septembre (10 Octobre), 1886.

Nr. 9394. Russland. 28. Sept./10. Oct. 1886. Par ordre du Général Baron de Kaulbars, j'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer que le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie déclare les élections de ce jour illégales et n'ayant à ses yeux aucune valeur. || Copie de la présente est communiquée à MM. les Représentants des Grandes Puissances. || Veuillez agréer, &c. Necludow.

Nr. 9395. **RUSSLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den bulgarischen Min. des Ausw. — Beschwerde über Gewaltthätigkeiten des Volkes und der Polizei gegen das russische Konsulat und die in dasselbe geflüchteten bulgarischen Bauern. [Gr. 36; B. 463.]

Sophia, le 29 Septembre (11 Octobre), 1886.

Nr. 9395. Russland. 29. Sept./11. Oct. 1886. Je crois de mon devoir de vous signaler, à titre officiel et de la façon la plus énergique, l'agression, à coups de pierres, commise dans la journée d'hier, sans aucune provocation et en présence de la police, contre l'Agence Impériale Diplomatique de Russie par la populace rassemblée devant la grille de l'Agence. || Je proteste de même contre les atrocités commises par les gendarmes et la troupe sur les personnes des paysans Bulgares réfugiés à l'Agence et qui en sortaient en parfait ordre, par petits groupes et ne portant aucune arme. || Copie de la présente est communiquée à tous les Représentants étrangers à Sophia. || Veuillez agréer, &c. Necludow.

Nr. 9396. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über Bauernunruhen bei den Wahlen durch den russischen Vertreter hervorgerufen, die, reservirte Haltung des diplomatischen Corps diesem gegenüber und weitere Ausschreitungen russischer Unterthanen. [B. 410.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, October 11, 1886.

Nr. 9396. England. 11. Oct. 1886. My Lord, || A band of about 200 peasants from some of the villages in the neighbourhood of Sophia assembled this morning in front of the Russian Agency. M. Nekludow addressed them in a speech in which he assured them of the affection felt by the Czar for the Bulgarian people, and of His Majesty's determination to protect them. General Kaulbars had been sent by His Imperial Majesty to demand the postponement of the elections, and therefore the Russian Government could not recognize the legality of the elections which

Nr. 9396. England. 11. Oct. 1886.

were being held at that moment. M. Nekludow concluded his speech by crying: "Long live the Bulgarian people!" || The peasants then proceeded to the place where the elections were being held, and where up to that time the proceedings had been conducted with perfect order. They made an attack upon the Bureau, which they attempted to overthrow; but they were beaten back by the Government partizans, who were present in large numbers. Thereupon the peasants returned to the Russian Agency, and were admitted to the courtyard. About thirty of them who had been wounded in the fight were admitted to the house, where their wounds were dressed.

M. Nekludow called upon me early in the afternoon and gave me an account of what had taken place. He also told me, that he had seen all my colleagues, and he requested that we should all go to the Russian Agency to verify the correctness of his statement, as he desired to guard against any false accusations which he thought might perhaps be brought against that Agency by the Bulgarian Government. He added, that he now declared officially that the Russian Government did not recognize the Bulgarian Government. ||

All my colleagues, with the exception of the French Agent, who subsequently expressed his approval of our action, met shortly afterwards at my house, and we decided that we would take note of M. Nekludow's declaration, but did not consider that a visit to the Russian Agency would, under the circumstances, serve any useful purpose. M. de Burian, the Acting Austrian Agent, undertook, at the request of his colleagues, to communicate this decision to M. Nekludow.

Some stone-throwing had taken place at intervals during the afternoon between the peasants in the courtyard of the Russian Agency and the crowd which had collected outside, and shortly after 4 o'clock several shots from revolvers were fired upon the crowd by some Montenegrin dependents of the Russian Agency. || M. Nekludow immediately sent me a note to say, that a regrettable incident had taken place, that two shots had been fired in the air by a Montenegrin who had taken refuge in the Agency, and that he had at once been arrested and put in prison. I can state from my personal knowledge, that ten shots at least were fired, and that the marks left by the bullets on the walls of the British and German Agencies conclusively prove, that at all events some of the shots were not fired in the air. || On the departure of the peasants from the Russian Agency, which took place by degrees shortly after 5 o'clock, they were at once arrested under somewhat rough treatment, and delivered over to a military force, by whom they were marched to the infantry barracks until a full inquiry should be made.

It would appear from the language held by M. Nekludow to one of my colleagues that he considers it probable that diplomatic relations with Bulgaria will now be broken off by the Russian Government. || I have forwarded the above to Sir E. Thornton, Sir A. Paget and Captain Jones. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9397. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die bulgarische Regierung ersucht die Grossmächte, die Angelegenheiten Bulgariens in unmittelbare Betrachtung zu nehmen; Versöhnung mit Russland ist aussichtslos; die Regierung erwartet den Vorschlag eines Kandidaten für den Thron*). [B. 412.]

(Telegraphic.) Sophia, October 11, 1886.

Nr. 9397. England. 11. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || M. Natchevitch told me this morning, that he had confidentially requested the Representatives of the Great Powers at Sophia to ask their respective Governments to take the present state of affairs in Bulgaria into immediate consideration. His object in making this request was that the interregnum, the prolongation of which would be very detrimental to the country, should be put an end to as soon as possible. || The occurrences of yesterday, and the hostility which was now openly displayed by the Russian Consuls throughout the country, had rendered a reconciliation with Russia hopeless, and proved the necessity of finding a solution of the question without delay. || The Bulgarian Government were enabled by the elections held yesterday to proceed at once with the convocation of the Great National Assembly for the election of a successor to Prince Alexander; but they were of opinion, that it would be useless to do this before they were informed of the name of the candidate whose election would be sanctioned by the Great Powers. || I have forwarded the above to Sir E. Thornton and Sir A. Paget. || I have, &c.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9398. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den neu ernannten Botschafter in Konstantinopel. — Generalinstruktion. [B. 414.]

(Extract.) Foreign Office, October 11, 1886.

Nr. 9398. England. 11. Oct. 1886.

You are so intimately acquainted with all the phases of the Eastern question and the general policy of this country, that it is not necessary for me to furnish you with detailed instructions for your guidance as Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte. It appears to me desirable, however, to make a few observations with regard to statements recently made in some quarters as to the intentions of this country, so as to put you in a position to remove any false impression that may exist at the Porte or in the mind of His Ma-

*) Iddesleigh übersandte am 12. Oktober dieses und das vorangehende Telegramm Lascelles' an die Botschafter in Berlin, Wien, Paris, Rom und Konstantinopel mit der Bemerkung: I have to request you to inquire, whether the Government to which you are accredited, have received information similar to that contained in Sir F. Lascelles' telegrams, and what view they take of the proceedings which he reports, and of the situation described in the communication received from the Bulgarian Government.

jesty the Sultan as to the attitude of Her Majesty's present advisers both in the existing condition of affairs in Eastern Europe and also in possible contingencies. || You will take every opportunity of impressing upon the Sultan and his Ministers in the clearest manner, that this country has no aggressive designs or intentions in the East either as regards Egypt or any other portion of His Majesty's dominions. || Her Majesty's Government hold to the traditional policy of this country, and desire that the Ottoman Empire should be strong and independent, and that its Government should be firmly established at Constantinople and in full and undisputed possession of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles. Nr. 9398. England. 11. Oct. 1886.

With regard to recent events in Bulgaria, Her Majesty's Government advised the Sultan to uphold Prince Alexander's authority, and did their best to support His Highness' position in Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, because they believed that the continuance of his Government in the position towards the Sovereign Power which has been created for it by international arrangements would best contribute to stay any foreign aggression on the European provinces of Turkey. The external pressure brought to bear on Prince Alexander has led him, in the absence of support from the Sultan, to abandon the task of endeavouring to organize the peoples of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia into well-ordered and peaceable communities, free from foreign influence and intrigue. || Her Majesty's Government regret Prince Alexander's withdrawal, and they feel that, in the interest of His Imperial Majesty, it is undesirable that there should be any unnecessary delay in proceeding to the formalities required for summoning an Assembly to consider the election of a successor to His Highness.

With regard to Egypt, the desire of Her Majesty's Government has been to make that country a source of strength and not of weakness to Turkey by the organization of a sound system of administration, the re-establishment of financial equilibrium and the maintenance of order under a Government recognizing the Sultan as the Supreme Head of the Ottoman Empire. The joint endeavours of the British and Ottoman High Commissioners are directed to this object, and Her Majesty's Government trust that their labours may result in the conclusion of a further Convention satisfactory alike to Turkey and to England. Many obstacles have, it is true, arisen to impede the progress in the work, which are chiefly due to the complex nature of the various financial interests involved and the difficulty of reconciling the claims put forward on behalf of the subjects of some foreign countries with a proper regard at once for the rights of the Sultan and for the financial position of the Egyptian Government. || As long as Her Majesty's Government continue to receive the unstinted support and aid of the Sultan in their Mission in Egypt, they will labour to promote His Majesty's interests in that country at the same time as the progress and welfare of its people.

Nr. 9399. ENGLAND. — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — Stellung der Pforte zu der Wiederaufnahme der diplomatischen Beziehungen zwischen Serbien und Bulgarien. [B. 449.]

Belgrade, October 12, 1886.

Nr. 9399. England. 12. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that the Turkish Minister told me on the 3rd instant that he had expressed satisfaction to the Servian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Dr. Stransky was only coming from Sophia to Belgrade as a Special Delegate, and not as a permanent Diplomatic Agent. He evidently did this as a protest against Bulgaria, as a vassal State, having permanent Diplomatic Agents. || Zia Bey also told me, that he had called the attention of M. Franassovitch to the fact that Bulgaria had not the right to conclude a Commercial Treaty with a foreign State independently of the Porte, and that his Excellency had taken note ("a pris acte") of his observation. || I have, &c.

Hugh Wyndham.

Nr. 9400. BULGARIEN*). — Min. des Ausw. an den russischen Vertreter in Sophia. — Darlegung der Gründe für das Zirkular; Zurückweisung des energischen Tadels. [B. 464; Gr. 37.]

Sophia, le 1er (13) Octobre, 1886.

Nr. 9400. Bulgarien. 13. Oct. 1886.

M. le Gérant, || J'ai reçu la note que vous avez bien voulu m'écrire en date du 28 Septembre au sujet de la Circulaire que je vous avais adressée au même titre qu'à MM. les Représentants des autres États à Sophia, pour vous prier d'inviter vos ressortissants à ne pas se mêler dans les élections qui ont eu lieu Dimanche dernier. || En me chargeant de faire cette communication, le Gouvernement Bulgare a été guidé par les motifs suivants: || Plusieurs États tiennent avec un soin jaloux aux droits que leur confèrent les Capitulations et l'Agence Impériale de Russie elle-même en a souvent usé. Or, dans l'application de ces Capitulations, il est arrivé parfois que des conflits, d'ailleurs sans gravité, se sont élevés entre les autorités Consulaires et Bulgares, principalement lorsqu'il s'est agi de mises en liberté immédiates de sujets étrangers arrêtés pour avoir été impliqués dans des affaires de police et d'ordre intérieur. || C'est afin de prévenir des conflits de cette nature que je me suis permis d'indiquer les mesures édictées à l'égard de ceux des sujets étrangers qui contreviendraient à la loi, le jour des élections. || Je suis persuadé, M. le Gérant, que dans votre esprit d'équité vous voudrez bien admettre que pour pouvoir maintenir l'ordre et la sécurité dans le pays, il est indispensable que l'action de

*) Natschewitch übersandte Abschriften dieser und der folgenden Note an die Vertreter der Mächte in Sophia. [Gr. 37; B. 464.]

l'autorité ne soit pas entravée; ou bien, il serait nécessaire, à notre avis, que les Agences Diplomatiques, qui se prévaudraient des Capitulations, consentissent à se charger elles-mêmes des mesures à prendre contre les sujets insubordonnés qu'elles peuvent avoir en Bulgarie. || Je me plais à exprimer la conviction que si vous voulez bien soumettre le cas qui nous occupe à sa haute appréciation, le Gouvernement Imperial de Russie daignera approuver les motifs qui ont engagé le Ministère Bulgare à adresser à toutes les Agences Diplomatiques la Circulaire que vous avez cru devoir me rendre; motifs corroborés par cet autre fait, digne de remarque, que j'avais été informé par mon collègue de l'Interieur, de l'arrivée inopinée à Sophia d'un grand nombre d'étrangers suspects qui avaient, le 26 Septembre, à l'avant-veille des élections, jeté l'alarme dans les quartiers populeux de la ville. || Pour ce qui concerne le "blâme énergique" que son Excellence le Général Baron de Kaulbars vous a chargé de nous exprimer de sa part à ce sujet, j'ai l'honneur de vous prier, M. le Gérant, de bien vouloir informer son Excellence que les Ministres Bulgares ne reçoivent de blâme que de la Représentation Nationale, ainsi qu'il est établi dans tous les pays Constitutionnels. || Veuillez agréer, &c.

G. D. Natchevitch.

Nr. 9400. Bulgarien. 13. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9401. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den russischen Vertreter in Sophia. — Begründung der Gesetzmässigkeit der Sobranjewahlen. [B. 464; Gr. 37.]

Sophia, le 1er (13) Octobre, 1886.

M. le Gérant, || Par ordre de son Excellence le Général Baron de Kaulbars, vous avez bien voulu me déclarer dans votre note du 28 Septembre dernier que les élections faites à cette date auraient été considérées par le Gouvernement Impérial comme illégales, c'est-à-dire, contraires aux lois de la Principauté Bulgare. || Comme la note n'indique aucun texte de loi démontrant cette illégalité, veuillez me permettre, M. le Gérant, de vous exposer les raisons qui, aux yeux du Gouvernement Bulgare, établissent le caractère légal des élections en question. || Vouz n'ignorez pas que le Traité de Berlin, en posant les bases de l'existence politique de la Principauté de Bulgarie, stipulait également qu'une Assemblée de Notables sera convoquée à Tirnova pour l'élaboration d'une Constitution qui servira de base au droit publique intérieur du pays. Cette Constitution, qui fut en effet élaborée sous les auspices du Commissaire Impérial de Russie, et approuvée par les Représentants des Grandes Puissances, est le fondement de toute la législation Bulgare. Aussi, bien loin de contester jamais la légalité de cet acte, le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie a-t-il plus d'une fois et d'une manière officielle, témoigné par ses Agents en Bulgarie son désir de voir la Constitution Bulgare respectée. L'Article 43 de cette Constitution stipule que "la Principauté Bulgare sera gouvernée strictement d'après les lois qui seront faites et promulguées dans les formes

Nr. 9401. Bulgarien. 13. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9401. Bulgarien. 13. Oct. 1886.

indiquées dans la présente Constitution." || Par suite, pour établir la légalité ou l'illégalité des élections qui ont eu lieu Dimanche dernier, il est nécessaire de se rapporter aux lois spéciales qui régissent la matière. Or, d'après l'Article 26 de la Loi Électorale: "les élections sont vérifiées par l'Assemblée Nationale elle-même, seule et unique juge de leur régularité et de leur validité." || Mais s'il ne lui est point donnée de préjuger une question qui relève de la compétence exclusive de l'Assemblée Nationale, le Gouvernement Bulgare croit, en ce qui concerne son action, s'être maintenu dans les limites de ses pouvoirs et de ses attributions en convoquant les collèges électoraux pour le 28 de mois dernier, car, dans ce fait encore, il s'est conformé aux lois en vigueur ainsi qu'au désir hautement exprimé par les Représentants du peuple dans la récente Session Extraordinaire. || En vous priant, M. le Géraut, de vouloir bien soumettre les considérations qui précèdent au Gouvernement que vous avez l'honneur de représenter, j'aime à espérer que le Gouvernment de Sa Majesté l'Empereur daignera apprécier les raisons qui portent le Gouvernement Bulgare à regarder comme légales les élections dont il s'agit. || Et, en vous remerciant de vos obligeants offices à cet effet, je profite, &c.

G. D. Natchevitch.

Nr. 9402. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Wien an den Min. des Ausw. — Kálnoky lehnt weitere Vorstellungen bei Russland ab. [B. 424.]

Vienna, October 13, 1886.

Nr. 9402. England. 13. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegrams of the 12th instant, and to state that I have spoken to Count Kálnoky on the subject of Sir Frank Lascelles' telegrams of the previous day. || The information contained in the first had appeared in the public telegrams here; but his Excellency told me that he had heard nothing from the Austrian Agent at Sophia relative to the request of the Bulgarian Government, that the Great Powers should take the affairs of Bulgaria into their immediate consideration with a view to putting an end to the interregnum. || Count Kálnoky went on to say, that he was not disposed at present to go further in the way of remonstrance with the Russian Government than he has already done, as I have had the honour to report in my previous despatches. || I have, &c.

A. Paget.

Nr. 9403. ENGLAND. — Botschafter in Rom an den Min. des Ausw. — Stellung Italiens zur bulgarischen Frage, Urtheil Robilants über die Politik der bulgarischen Regierung. [B. 425.]

(Telegram.)

Rome, October 13, 1886.

Nr. 9403. England. 13. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || I have communicated Sir F. Lascelles' telegrams of the 11th instant to count Robilant, who informs me that the Italian Government have

received exactly similar information. || His Excellency said, that, as the interests of Italy in Bulgaria were unimportant, she would restrict her action within the limits of the Berlin Treaty, according to which the only point now requiring consideration is the election of a successor to Prince Alexander. || As the sole Power entitled to independent action the Porte might move in the matter. || The Bulgarian Regency, his Excellency remarked, had acted correctly and with wisdom. Yet their contention as to the recent elections being illegal was borne out by the provisions of the Berlin Treaty, as Eastern Roumelia had voted, though having no right to do so. || His Excellency did not consider the election of a Ruler for Bulgaria to be a fit subject for a Conference, but rather as a matter for a friendly exchange of opinions; and he added, that such an interchange of views might probably be facilitated by some preliminary suggestion from the Cabinet of Berlin. || I have, &c.

J. Savile Lumley.

Nr. 9403. England. 13. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9404. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Paris an den Min. des Ausw. — Freycinet lehnt eine Meinungsäusserung über die bulgarische Angelegenheit ab und erwartet zunächst eine solche von Deutschland und Oesterreich. [B. 426.]

Paris, October 13, 1886.

My Lord, || I communicated to-day to M. de Freycinet the information conveyed in Sir F. Lascelles' telegrams of the 11th instant, the first giving the account of the behaviour of a band of men collected at the Russian Agency during the elections at Sophia; the other reporting the request of the Bulgarian Government, that the Great Powers would take the affairs of their country into immediate consideration. || M. de Freycinet had received a Report from his Agent of the occurrences at Sophia, which he considered very extraordinary; indeed, the mission of General Kaulbars was a singular one altogether. || His Agents do not inform him, that the Governments to which they are accredited have offered ony opinion; the French Representative at Berlin elicited nothing from the German Government. || What he asked is the opinion of the Austrian and German Governments. Have they expressed any? || He would take into consideration the views of the various Governments if they were made; but at present he was in the dark, and certainly could not advance his views. || As for the Circular appeal of the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, he has not yet received it, and in like manner would not pronounce any opinion. || I have, &c.

Edwin H. Egerton.

Nr. 9404. England. 13. Oct. 1886.

Nr. 9405. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Belgrad an den Min. des Ausw. — Bericht über den guten Fortgang der Verhandlungen zwischen Serbien und Bulgarien und die serbischen Forderungen in dem Bregowostreite. [B. 429.]

Belgrade, October 14, 1886.

Nr. 9405. England. 14. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || As I have had the honour to report to your Lordship in previous despatches, negotiations have been going on privately between the Servian Government, through the medium of M. Todorovitch and the Bulgarian Government, for the settlement of the points in dispute between the two countries. Three of those points were enumerated in my despatch of the 24th ultimo; but I have since learnt, that another had been added by the Servian Government, viz., that the Servians, who were compromised in the revolution of 1883, and who have taken refuge in Bulgaria, should be removed to a distance of 70 kilom. from the Servian frontier, so as to prevent, as far as possible, their endeavouring to foment disturbances in this kingdom. || The negotiations having been, as I have reported, commenced privately, were afterwards carried on directly by telegraph between M. Natchevitch and M. Franassovitch, and have resulted in a complete understanding on all the questions at issue between the two countries excepting upon that of Bregovo. M. Franassovitch said, that the King's Government had now decided to propose that Bregovo should be evacuated by the Bulgarians, Servia renouncing the claim which she had put forward to occupy it for a certain time (first for a term of three days, and secondly for a term of forty-eight hours), and that the territory should be considered as neutral pending a final decision by a Mixed Commission, but that the Bulgarian Government should express their regret at the forcible manner in which the territory in question had been seized. This proposal, which M. Franassovitch observed to me, contained the last concession the Servian Government could make on this point, appears to me to be reasonable*).

I have informed your Lordship and Sir Frank Lascelles of the main points of this despatch by telegraph. || I have, &c.

Hugh Wyndham.

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*) Natschewitch erklärte hierauf Lascelles, welcher ihm diese serbischen Forderungen mittheilte, dass sicherlich ohne Schwierigkeit dieselben angenommen werden würden, wenn die serbische Regierung einen dahin gehenden Vorschlag in Sophia machen würde. [B. 433.]

Nr. 9406. ENGLAND. — Min. des Ausw. an den Botschafter in St.-Petersburg. — Bericht über ein Gespräch mit dem russischen Botschafter über das Verfahren des Generals Kaulbars und seinerseits eingelegte Verwahrung gegen eine etwa beabsichtigte Besetzung Bulgariens von Seiten Russlands. [B. 430.]

Foreign Office, October 14, 1886.

Nr. 9406. England. 14. Oct. 1886.

Sir, || The Russian Ambassador called upon me this afternoon at my request, informing me at the same time that he had been about to do so before he received my note. || I reverted to my conversation with his Excellency on Bulgarian affairs, recorded in my despatch of the 5th instant, and taking up the subject at the point at which we had then left it, I observed that events seemed to justify the view I had expressed that General Kaulbars' conduct of his mission was more calculated to irritate than to pacifiy. I could not but remark, that the General's language had more of the tone of command than of counsel, and I said, I thought experience had shown that it produced a feeling of alarm and irritation. The attempts which had been made at terrorism in a few places while the elections were going on had, I thought, proceeded directly or indirectly from the side opposed to the Government, and they seemed to have been encouraged by the Russian authorities. I referred as an illustration to the scene in front of and in the courtyard of the Russian Agency at Sophia on the day of the elections. || M. de Staal interrupted me by some remarks on the different accounts given of that proceeding, and I ultimately promised to compare those in our possession with one another and to send him a note of them, which he said he would send to St. Petersburgh for observations. His Excellency said, he knew nothing but what he had seen in the newspapers. || I then went on to say, that such language as that of General Kaulbaurs was open to objection on two grounds: firstly, because it tended to intimidate the Bulgarian people in the exercise of their constitutional duties; secondly, because it was an assumption of a right on the part of Russia to establish a separate authority in Bulgaria, which was an affront to the other Powers parties to the Treaty of Berlin. I did not know, I said, whether the language to which I objected was the General's own, or whether it was used by order of his Government. In either case I felt bound to take exception to it. || M. de Staal said again, that he knew nothing of General Kaulbars' language beyond what he had seen in the newspapers; that he supposed it was used on the Generals' own responsibility; but he read me a telegram from his Government which was to the effect that they could not regard the elections as legal, and he pointed out that in substance this telegram covered General Kaulbars' declarations. || I said, if I understood his Excellency rightly, the Russian Government held that the elections were illegal, and that they could not be legalized. That seemed an impos-

Nr. 9406. England. 14. Oct. 1886.

sible situation. || M. de Staal said, a Government might be recognized *de facto*, even when its legality was questioned or denied, and that he apprehended that the Bulgarian Government would be so regarded by Russia.

I asked his Excellency what General Kaulbars was now going to do. Would he remain in Bulgaria or return to Russia, or to Vienna? || M. de Staal said, he did not know, but thought he would report on the state of the country. His Excellency went on to say, that we must remember the special interest taken in Bulgaria by the Russian nation, which had shed its blood to deliver her, and was anxious to see her preserved from anarchy and terrorism, just as England had been anxious to preserve order in Egypt. His personal opinion was that there would be no desire on the part of his Government to resort to a Russian occupation of Bulgaria, but he did not pretend to know their plans. || I told M. de Staal, that I could not but protest against the assumption by Russia of a special title to intervene in Bulgaria, and against the whole tone of General Kaulbars' proceedings.

His Excellency mentioned to me in the course of conversation, that he had received a telegram from his Government instructing him to call my attention to the account which had appeared in the newspapers of a meeting at Rustchuk, at which the British Vice-Consul had been present, and a telegram received from Prince Alexander had been read out promising to return to Bulgaria if he were re-elected. || I told his Excellency, that the whole story was untrue, that there had been no such meeting, and that Prince Alexander had sent no such message. || M. de Staal inquired whether the Prince had been interrogated on the subject. I replied in the negative, but said that His Highness, having seen the report, had contradicted it through a member of his family.

At the close of our conversation I repeated, that I could not but protest against General Kaulbars' proceedings, and must communicate with Lord Salisbury upon the whole of the questions raised in the course of our interview.

I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

Nr. 9407. **BULGARIEN.** — Min. des Ausw. an den russischen Vertreter in Sophia. — Uebersendet ein Schreiben des bulgarischen Ministers des Innern über die Vorgänge am Wahltage in Sophia und macht für die vorgefallenen Unruhen allein die regierungsfeindliche Partei verantwortlich*). [B. 465; Gr. 38.]

Sophia, le 2 (14) Octobre, 1886.

Nr. 9407. Bulgarien. 14. Oct. 1886.

M. le Gérant, || En réponse à la note que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser le 29 Septembre dernier, concernant l'incident qui a eu lieu devant le Palais

*) Auch von dieser Note übersandte Natschewitch Abschriften an die Vertreter der andern Mächte.

de l'Agence Impériale de Russie, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint en traduction une lettre que m'écrit mon collègue de l'Intérieur, M. Radoslavoff, Président du Conseil, et qui renferme un exposé circonstancié des événements survenus Dimanche dernier. || Il résulte de cet exposé, comme vous voudrez bien en être persuadé, M. le Gérant, que, tout bien considéré, l'incident en question n'a eu aux yeux de personne le caractère d'une agression dirigée contre l'Agence Impériale de Russie. La responsabilité du désordre fortuit et momentané qui s'est produit devant l'Agence retombe toute entière sur cette bande d'électeurs qui ont essayé d'enrayer la liberté des élections et d'empêcher les citoyens honnêtes et paisibles d'exercer un de leurs droits les plus sacrés. Et cette responsabilité est d'autant plus grande qu'après avoir tenté de susciter des désordres, ces individus ont cru pouvoir éviter la punition prévue par la Loi Électorale, en venant devant vous se poser en victimes lorsqu'ils étaient les provocateurs, et vous demander une protection qui ne leur était pas due et qu'ils ne méritaient point. || A la suite des explications que je viens de vous donner de la part du Gouvernement Bulgare, j'aime à exprimer l'espoir que, dans votre esprit de justice et d'équité, vous voudrez bien, M. le Gérant, reconnaître l'attitude correcte observée par les autorités Bulgares au cours de cet incident que le Gouvernement Bulgare est le premier à regretter. || Veuillez agréer, &c. G. D. Natchevitch.

Nr. 9407. England. 14. Oct. 1886.

M. Radoslavoff to M. Natchevitch).*

Sophia, le 1er Octobre, 1886.

M. le Ministre, || En réponse à la communication que vous m'avez faite de la note de l'Agence Impériale de Russie en date du 29 Septembre dernier, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-après les renseignements fournis par l'enquête que j'avais ordonnée sur l'incident survenu Dimanche dernier devant le Palais de Russie. || Une bande d'environ 150 électeurs s'étant réunis ce jour-là sur la Place Gourko, se rendirent directement devant l'Agence Diplomatique de Russie où M. Nekludoff les harangua, leur exprimant les sympathies, les désirs et les vues de la Russie à l'égard de la Bulgarie. Ils se dirigèrent ensuite vers le local où se trouvait constitué le bureau électoral; et dès leur arrivée, ils tentèrent de briser les urnes et de chasser le Bureau. || D'autres électeurs, soucieux de faire respecter leurs droits, les forcèrent de quitter le local; il se produisit une lutte de quelques instants, comme on en voit dans les élections de beaucoup de pays et comme le cas s'en est présenté souvent en Bulgarie; lutte sans gravité du reste, puisqu'il n'y eut que quelques visages écorchés. || Les agresseurs retournèrent à l'Agence Diplomatique de Russie et furent bientôt suivis par une centaine de curieux; les premiers, massés dans la cour du Palais, les seconds se tenant devant le portail et près de la grille,

*) Lascelles bemerkt zu dieser Darstellung des Sachverhalts bei Uebersendung dieser Stücke an Iddesleigh: dieser Bericht gebe a very correct account of what took place.

Nr. 9407. Bulgarien. 14. Oct. 1886. commencèrent à s'interpeller et à se lancer des quolibets. Puis, des paroles ils en vinrent à se jeter des gourdins et des pierres. Il convient de noter, ce que tout le monde assure pour l'avoir vu, que les premiers projectiles furent lancés par les individus qui se trouvaient dans la cour de l'Agence et qui se fabriquaient les gourdins avec de gros bois de chauffage saisis, sans nul doute à l'insu des fonctionnaires de l'Agence Impériale, dans l'un des hangars du Consulat. || Jusqu'en ce moment les gendarmes, qui étaient en petit nombre, essayaient de contenir la foule de plus en plus grossissante. || Ce fut alors que se firent entendre une quinzaine de détonations de revolver, parties de la Cour de l'Agence dans diverses directions. Le Lieutenant Fitcheff, qui passait à cet instant, eut son cheval blessé par une balle et il s'en a fallu de peu qu'il ne fut lui-même atteint. Il a été également constaté que quelques balles se sont logées dans les murailles des Consulats d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre. || A la suite de ces coups de feu, la police requit sans retard un détachement de force armée qui dispersa immédiatement la foule, et, après avoir fait évacuer tous les abords du Palais, défendit l'accès de toutes les rues avoisinantes. || De ce que la Préfecture de Police n'avait pas placé assez de gendarmes près du Palais de Russie pour empêcher, auparavant et dès l'origine, le public d'approcher, la raison en est dans la démarche fait par M. Nekludoff auprès de vous le 21 Septembre et à la suite de laquelle j'avais donné aux autorités locales des ordres en conséquence. Vous m'avez dit en effet, M. le Ministre, que M. Nekludoff vous avait déclaré que "l'Agence Impériale de Russie entendait formellement que la police ne s'inquiétât point de prendre des mesures de précaution en faveur de l'Agence, qui saurait se défendre elle-même contre toute éventualité." || Quant aux prétendues atrocités que la troupe et les gendarmes auraient commises sur la personne des électeurs qui avaient cherché refuge dans la cour de l'Agence, je puis vous donner l'assurance, M. le Ministre, que l'on a exagéré les faits qu'on a rapportés à cet égard à M. le Gérant de l'Agence Diplomatique de Russie. Les individus qui sortaient par groupes du Palais de Russie étaient recueillis au passage par les agents de la force publique; et si quelques-uns d'entre eux ont pu être rudoyés c'est sans doute pour n'avoir pas voulu obtempérer aux ordres qui leur étaient enjoints de se rendre aux postes de police où ils devaient décliner leurs noms et subir l'interrogatoire pour l'enquête ordonnée sur le scandale qu'ils ont seuls provoqué.

Nr. 9408. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die bulgarische Regierung hat beschlossen, dass das Alexander-Regiment hinfort den Namen des Fürsten weiter tragen soll. [B. 467.]

Sophia, October 16, 1886.

Nr. 9408. England. 16. Oct. 1886. My Lord, || An Order, signed by the Bulgarian Regents, on the proposal of the Minister of War, has recently been published in the official journal,

to the effect that the 1st Bulgarian regiment of the line, which has hitherto been known as His Highness' regiment, should henceforth bear the name of Prince Alexander Ist's Regiment. || I have, &c.

Nr. 9404. England. 16. Oct. 1886.

Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9409. ITALIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. Lässt die bulgarische Regierung zur grössten Vorsicht und Besonnenheit in Verfolgung ihrer Politik ermahnen. [Gr. 40.]

Roma, 16 ottobre 1886.

Nr. 9409. Italien. 16. Oct. 1886.

Signor agente, || Non sono senza apprensione circa le consequence dei progetti che si attribuiscono alla reggenza e delle intenzioni dalle quali si presuppone, non senza fondamento, che l'assemblea possa essere animata. Il governo bulgaro deve mostrarsi molto cauto nel suo contegno e giovarsi di ogni suo mezzo d'influenza acciò nell'assemblea vengano a predominare analoghi sentimenti. Se gli atti suoi o quelli dell'assemblea provocassero da parte della Russia l'occupazione del principato, e specialmente se questa fosse dichiarata provvisoria, è dubbio assai che alcuna grande potenza sia per prestare ai Bulgari un aiuto efficace, nessuna volendo addossarsi la responsabilità di complicazioni di cui sarebbe impossibile prevedere lo svolgimento e la fine. || Ciò è quanto a noi consta; amici dei Bulgari, dobbiamo dir loro tutta la verità, affinchè, in questo periodo, dal quale dipende la loro sorte futura, sappiano regolarsi con dignitosa prudenza. || Confermo per tal modo il telegramma che Le diressi, ieri, per Sua notizia e per norma di linguaggio. || Gradisca, ecc.

C. Robilant.

Nr. 9410. BULGARIEN. — Min. des Ausw. an die Vertreter der Mächte in Sophia. — Anzeige der Einberufung der Sobranje um sich wegen der Fürstenwahl mit der Pforte und den Grossmächten in Verbindung zu setzen. [B. 469; Gr. 41.]

(Nach der Ausfertigung an den englischen Vertreter.)

Note Verbale.

Nr. 9410. Bulgarien. 16. Oct. 1886.

Le Ministère des Affaires Étrangères a l'honneur d'informer l'Agence et Consulat Général d'Angleterre en Bulgarie que, en vertu de la Constitution et de la Loi Électorale par Décret en date du 4 Octobre courant, la Grande Assemblée Nationale est convoquée pour le 15 de ce mois à Tirnova. || Après avoir procédé à la vérification des pouvoirs de ses membres, et s'être constituée, la dite Assemblée, dépositaire de la souveraineté Nationale, se mettra en rapports avec la Sublime Porte et les Grandes Puissances pour l'élection du nouveau Souverain Bulgare.

Sophia, le 4 (16) Octobre, 1886.

Nr. 9411. **ENGLAND.** — Vertreter in Sophia an den Min. des Ausw. — Die bulgarische Regierung hat die Pforte um Mittheilung ihrer Ansicht über die Lage in Bulgarien gebeten und die Entsendung eines Agenten nach Constantinopel vorgeschlagen. [B. 439.]

(Telegram.) Sophia, October 17, 1886.

Nr. 9411. England. 17. Oct. 1886.

My Lord, || M. Natchevitch has instructed the Bulgarian Agent at Constantinople to inform the Grand Vizier, that the Bulgarian Government are anxious to learn the views of the Porte on the state of things which at present exist in Bulgaria, and they propose that M. Grecoff should proceed to Constantinople for this purpose. || M. Natchevitch has told me, that he would like to be able to send M. Grecoff at once, and he therefore hopes that the Grand Vizier will give him a reply without delay. || I have sent the above to Constantinople. || I have, &c. Frank C. Lascelles.

Nr. 9412. **ENGLAND.** — Min. des Ausw. an den Vertreter in Sophia. — Instruction. [B. 442.]

Foreign Office, October 17, 1886.

Nr. 9412. England. 17. Oct. 1886.

Sir, || I have received your telegram of yesterday's date, relative to the intended meeting of the Great Sobranjé at Tirnova on the 27 instant, and to the wish of the Bulgarian Government that the Agents of the Powers should be present on the occasion. || I have informed you, in reply, by telegraph, that it would be desirable that you should attend the opening of the Assembly and that I trust that the Agents of the other Great Powers may also go to Tirnova for the purpose. If, however, you should find, that they do not intend to do so, you should apply for further instructions by telegraph. || I am, &c. Iddesleigh.

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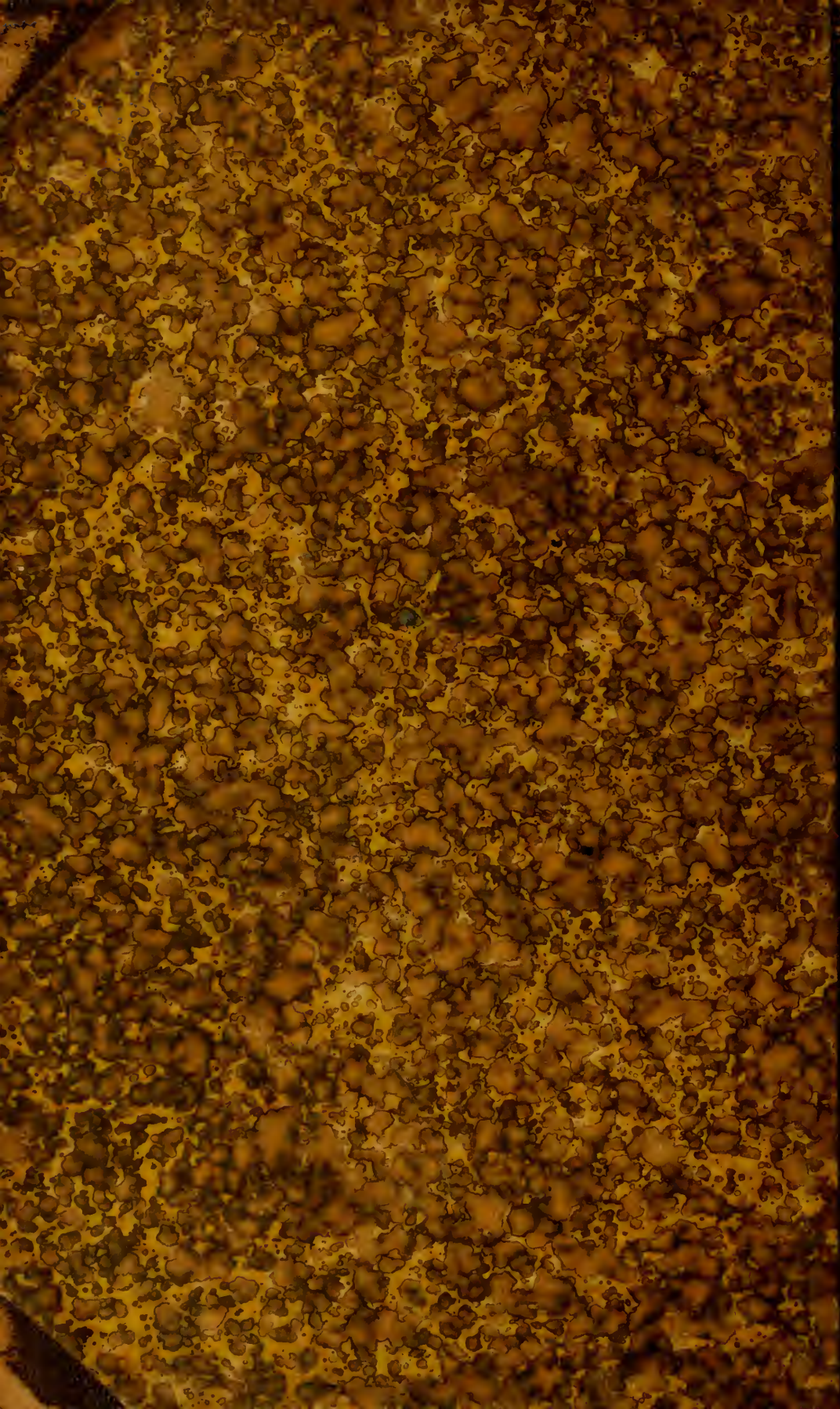
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